

**COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST**

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**ALASKA PURCHASE CENTENNIAL ELONGATED COINS**

by  
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Fairbanks, AK 99701

**A-67**, as we Alaskans call the Purchase Centennial, was commemorated on elongateds by two rollers; Danny B. Crabb of Woodlands Hills, California and Lloyd Wagaman of Camby, Indiana.

Danny Crabb probably didn't have the specific goal of commemorating the purchase of Alaska in mind when he rolled his issue. Crabb rolled a series of elongateds depicting Jim Beam decanters. I'm not sure how many different decanters Crabb incorporated on elongateds but one list I have numbers them to #84. The #60 in this series is his Alaska Purchase Centennial. This elongated is described as: picture of decanter as center piece; top right in two lines-BEAM/BOTTLE; bottom center in three lines- Alaska/Purchase/DC; with dotted border. Crabb is deceased, so researching his issues is a bit more difficult than writing a few letters. I know of no published listing of his issues or mintages, but this is not to say that they don't exist. I do know that the Alaska Purchase Centennial Decanter was rolled on cents and silver dimes because I have both of these in my collection. I believe he rolled all decanter issues on cents and dimes. I don't know if he ever rolled on quarters or half dollars. I have no idea of the mintages for these issues. If anyone has information on these elongateds, or have any for sale, I would like to hear from you.

Conversely, Lloyd E. Wagaman did set out to commemorate the Alaska Purchase Centennial in 1967. The fruit of his effort is a well designed, geometrically balanced elongated. Wagaman started rolling this issue in his basement on December 24, 1966. He sold what he could to collectors and then sold the remainder to a jobber who in turn sold them wholesale to coin shops. These elongateds were not sold in Alaska as part of the exonumia offered at the A-67 celebration. Wagaman kept careful track of all his elongateds and wrote a book called "The Elongated Coins Issued By Lloyd Wagaman". This book was issued in the spring of 1973 and is not copywrited. Any portion may be copied without permission, for the benefit of the hobby of collecting elongated coins. Credit should be given to the author for any portions used.

The following is the description, and mintages, from the book for Wagaman's Alaska #2: "Map for center piece. /1867/ to left of map /1967/ to the right. Around the top in one line /CENTENNIAL OF THE PURCHASE/ Below map in two lines /of/ALASKA/. Initials /LW/ at lower left. Dotted border. (36mm). Mintages: 1c - 2,223; 5c - 150; 10c - 150; 25c - 50; 50c - 50; \$1.00 - 0; other - 0; destroyed die - 2." Although 2,223 does seem like a large mintage, 19 years has taken its toll. For the past two years I've been actively searching and have managed to locate only 18 cents. All of my cents are rolled on 1965 or 1967 coinage. I know there are probably more but finding them is proving to be quite a challenge. Of the 150 nickels, I've located only 8. Of the 50 possible 5 piece denominational sets, (1c, 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c, all on 1967 coinage), I have located only two sets.

These Alaska Purchase Centennial elongateds are the only ones that I know exist. If anyone knows of others, I'd like to hear from you about them.

More about Alaska related and Alaska rolled elongateds to come in future issues.



## EDITORIAL

Sorry that this issue is late in getting into the mail. With the Christmas rush and holiday, and inventory on the new year, ATC&PN was set aside til things got back to some semblance of normalcy.

Our thanks to Bert Samsa again this month for an article on Purchase Centennial elongateds. We had planned an article on other articles related to A-67, specifically Alaskaland, but have not been able to put it together yet. May wait until next year as that would be the 20th anniversary. So, if you see an article on Alaskaland this year, it means we are short on articles, and could use yours!

There will be no newsletter in February. This is one of the two months that we take off each year. But, we will not be resting. You should receive our next pricelist some time in February. It is all set to be printed, but don't have the time to do that now. Printing the 5 pages for this newsletter is going to take time enough. So, look for our pricelist shortly after the first of February.

Finally, we will be using a different computer for the next issue of ATC&PN, a Leading Edge that is IBM compatible. So, the newsletter may be a little ragged until we get used to a new word processing program. So far, we have been disappointed in what we have found for word processors. They do not offer the variety that Appleworks does. Is there an IBM compatible word processing program that is comparable to Appleworks? If any of you computer buffs out there can be of any assistance, we would appreciate it. What we are looking for in a word processing program is one that will do from 4 to 12 characters per inch, and proportional in the size of 10 C/I, justify the right edge of the column, boldface, underline, center, very variable margins, and tab settings. We are sure that there are other features that we require, but should be common to all word processors. If you can supply the name of such a program, please advise.

Hopefully, we will be using new computer print-out labels for those of you who have paid or otherwise contributed for your subscription for 1986. Please examine the label and make sure it is correct. If you receive an old label, this indicates that our records do not show that you paid for 1986, and this will be your last issue unless you pay the subscription rate, or contribute an article or information.

## ALASCOM 1 OZ. SILVER MEDALS



Alascom's silver medals feature their telecommunications satellite Aurora. It is reported to us that these medals were used as awards to the musher first to reach the half way point on the Iditarod, and to the boat driver to reach the halfway point in the Yukon 800 riverboat race.

## EL SOMBREO RESTAURANT SILVER MEDAL



El Sombrero Restaurant in Fairbanks has issued a 1 oz. silver medal. The obverse features a snoozing Mexican in front of an igloo, while the reverse features a map of Alaska, surrounded by seven sombreros, and the same snoozing Mexican and igloo sitting on the Arctic Circle. The medals are numbered.

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Editor- Dick Hanscom  
Canadian Corr.- Jerry Remick

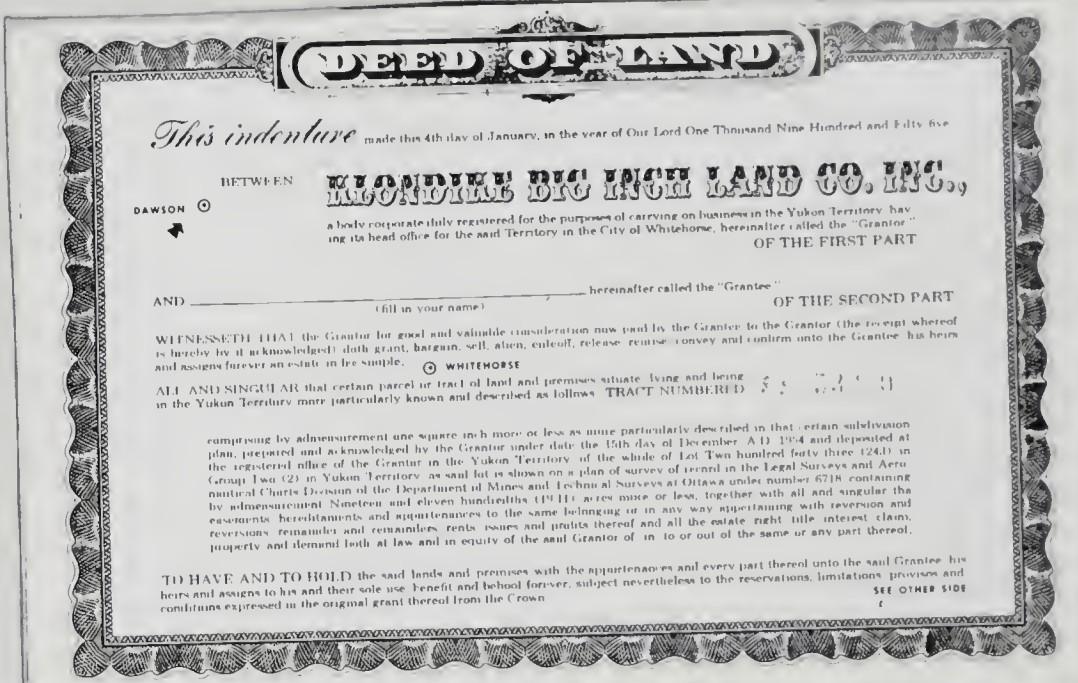
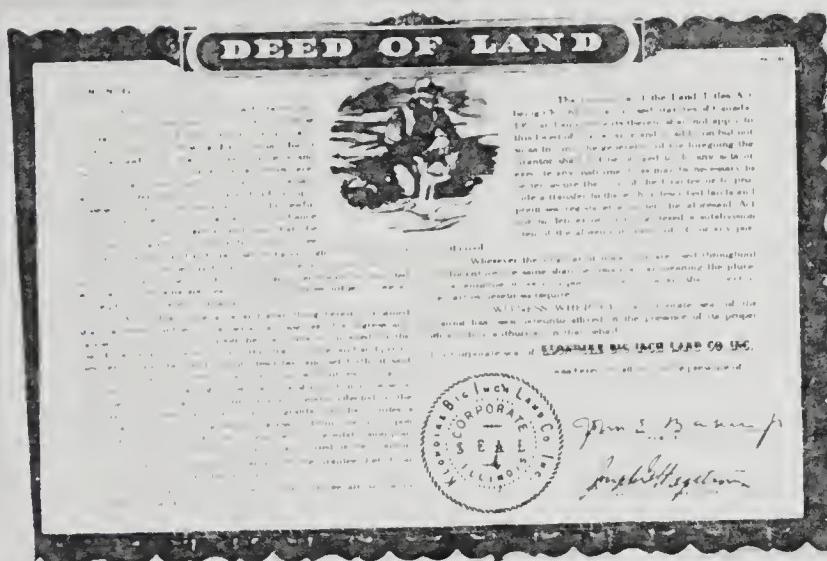
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ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE. IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID FOR THIS YEAR, THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE.

# THE STORY OF THE KLONDIKE BIG INCH LAND CO.

Michael A. Lapides  
Director of Advertising and Promotion for Quaker Square



In the 1950's Quaker Oats sponsored the television version of the radio-network hero, Sgt. Preston of the Yukon. The script ground itself out year after year but the merchandising offers had begun to pall by 1955. Boxtop and coupon lures had included a compass, knife, fire-lighting prism ring, pedometer, whistle and other goodies. These were popular but not distinguished from the premium offers of other manufacturers and Quaker Oats asked its agency to come up with something "different."

"It all started," its creator Bruce Baker wrote later, "with that sickening feeling one has when one is smoking two cigarettes at the same time... at home at three o'clock in the morning, with the horrible realization that by noon the next day one has to be at the Quaker Oats company with the idea."

Baker recalled a scheme where in tiny bits of land had been given away in Oklahoma. Why not, he asked, offer a deed to a square inch of land right in Sgt. Preston's own Yukon Territory? By mid-morning Baker had sold the idea to his agency, and by noon to Quaker's Merchandising Department.

They purchased a 19.11 acre plot on the Yukon River 12 miles north of Dawson and acquired it for \$10,000 passing title to the Big Inch Land Company, Inc., a new corporation that would disperse the land by subdivision. The land was divided into 21 million parcels each an inch square and properly designated by individual letter and number to differentiate each parcel from its neighbors. The recipient of each deed acknowledged the right of every other owner to an easement permitting him to cross his inch at will. No mineral rights were involved, since the Canadian Government reserved all such assets to itself.

A follow-up promotion featured dirt from the Yukon in tiny pouches. 20 millions of these were offered as premiums as a complement to the land deed. These premiums were also sold out.

For further information, contact Mr. Michael A. Lapides, Quaker Square Director of Advertising and Promotion, 135 S. Broadway, Akron, Ohio 44303.

FOR THE RECORD



FAIRBANKS: Arctic Bowl, one free game. Black on wood.



FAIRBANKS: 49'er Club, 6 Mile Village, one drink. Black on wood.



FAIRBANKS: Club Alaskan, one drink, black on wood.



FOX, AK: The (Turtle) Club Bar. One drink. Green on wood.



FAIRBANKS: Comet Club, one drink, gold lettering and design only on blue plastic with incuse diamonds. 40mm.



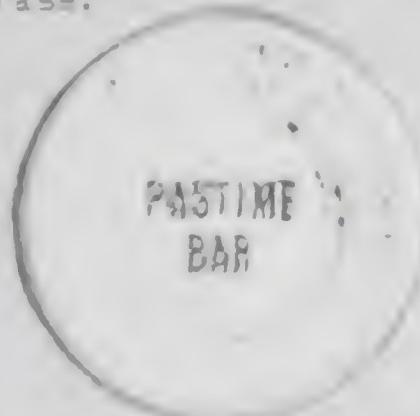
JUNEAU: Elks 420, rain check. reverse elk head. Gold printing (above items only) on blue plastic, with incuse design. 39.5mm.



FAIRBANKS: Moose Lodge, one drink, 34mm brass.



NINILCHIK, AK: North Bar, one drink. Black on wood.



FAIRBANKS: Pastime Bar, no denomination. Gold on white plastic.



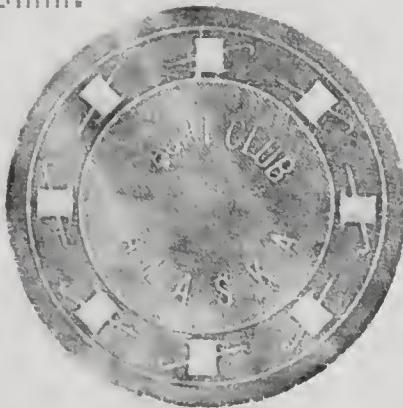
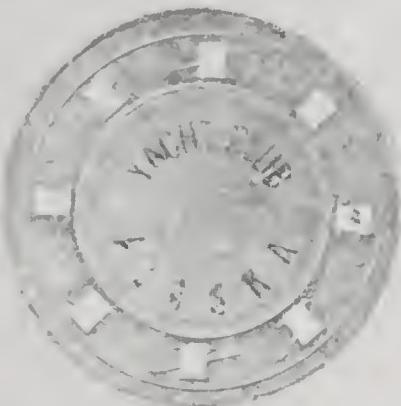
SKAGWAY: Gateway to the Klondike, \$1 in trade at any cooperating merchant. No date. 34mm, brass.



SKAGWAY: Golden North Hotel, wooden nickel. Black on wood.



WILLOW, AK: Sheep Creek Lodge, one drink. Black on yellow plastic, 38mm.



MAVERICK: Yacht Club, Alaska. Gold (lettering only) on white poker chip with incuse design. Thought to be Juneau.



YUKON: Yukon Forest Service, wooden nickel, black on wood. Apparently issued 1984. (Submitted by Brian Denman).

From THE PATHFINDER, official organ of the Pioneers of Alaska, June, 1923.

"Henry Rappolt, owner of Rappolt's Bakery in Nenana, expects shortly to retire from business and take a year's vacation on the rushing Outside. He started the first bakeshop in Dyea, and has since been in business in Atlin, Fairbanks, and Nenana.

#### THE BANK SALOON, DAWSON CITY

(From Yukon Territory Illustrated, submitted by Kaye Dethridge)

One of the most historic spots in the city is the corner of First Avenue and King Street, upon which the elegant Bank block office building now stands. On the first floor of the corner of this building is the well known Bank Saloon, conducted by that prince of good fellows, Mr. Peter A. McDonald. The interior arrangement of the "Bank" is perfect and most attractive, the magnificent bar of polished quarter sawed oak and the wall decorations lending an air of great richness. The establishment covers a floor space of 1000 square feet, the rear end being partitioned into a first class club room, elegantly appointed. From the bar which is a model of taste and design Mr. McDonald dispenses only the most select goods in straight liquors, Seagram rye, Canadian Club, all brands of Scotches and gins, sherry, port, sauterne and claret wines, the standard brands of ale and porter, Anheuser-Busch Budweiser beer and the choicest domestic and imported cigars. As the most convenient place to drop in and take a "smile" the "Bank" has a decided advantage, being located on the busiest corner in the city. Of the thousands who have sought fortunes in the land of the midnight sun, there is probably no man whose career so aptly illustrates the ups and downs of life in a mining camp as does that of genial Pete McDonald of Dawson. His career has been one of genuine romance and so closely associated with the Mecca of the gold hunter that its history, teeming as it is with interest, could be well told in a history of his life. He belongs to that class of men who make themselves indispensable in frontier life and since the early days of his arrival has been a leading spirit in every undertaking which has had for its purpose the ameliorating of distress or for the advancement of any enterprise devoted to the public good. Mr. McDonald is one of the most popular men in the Yukon and every man he knows is proud to be termed his friend. Mr. McDonald has met with many reverses by fire and otherwise but with characteristic pluck, energy and undaunted courage he has proven himself master of adverse conditions.

(Ed. note: See the December, 1983 issue of ATC&PN for another article on the Bank Saloon)

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**JOE & PAULINE JEAN**

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Joe Jean was not an ordinary Alaskan. He was one heckuva guy who we will never forget...a gold rusher, typical of the many who followed the strikes from one end of Alaska to the other, but untypical, in that he hit it rich on two or three occasions. He was more well known in his time, even famous, for his dog mushing race wins in the Ruby and Iditarod classics of the early 1900s.

A tough little guy. One of our last memories of Joe was when we were in a Taylorcraft on skis, trying to land at Joe's little village of Mumtrak at the head of Goodnews Bay. It was somewhere around zero or probably below. It was snowing, and we had been fortunate to find the village, keeping windows open on both sides to maintain eye contact with the frozen sea ice, looking for a place to land, having to land, but in a land of whiteout, always dangerous. Joe recognized our predicament instantly and ran out of his home and store, fumbling at the fastenings of his little ground squirrel parka as he ran, down to the sea ice and on, at 72 his little bandy legs effortlessly moving him at a fast running trot. Two or three dozen villagers strung out behind him like a swarm of bees. And Joe kept waving both arms in a "farther out, farther out" warning. Finally, he selected a smooth enough strip and the folks of the village joined him to line up on both sides of the chosen landing area. When we came to a stop and climbed out, Joe was there as always with a warm hello and as always, his eyes sparkling.

Joe had a thousand stories and many of them he particularly relished because they had happened to him. At 21, this Quebec Frenchman and two other Frenchmen who were waiting for ice conditions to permit them to land on the Nome beaches that summer in 1900, decided to pass the time fishing over the side for codfish. When they finally got ashore a couple of days later, they had strings of codfish over their shoulders and down their backs. Not speaking English, they hired a black man to shout their wares. They sold their fresh fish on those crowded Nome streets in no time. Memory tells us Joe said some figure around \$250, but we can't forget the glee and those sparkling eyes as he told us the story. "We were rich!" he declared. "We'd already struck gold!"

And Joe went on to strike gold in varying quantities in a number of places, in the Iditarod, on Willow in the upper Yukon, and finally on Wattamuse Creek in Goodnews Bay, where his daughter Betty Marie and her husband are again mining the Wattamuse gravels.

(Continued on page 8.)

## EDITORIAL

We were recently offered a collection of Alaskan tokens and medals. The collector stated that since he had held the collection for five years, he felt that he should be able to get his money out of it, and maybe even then some. This incident reminded me to say something concerning collecting vs. investing in Alaskan tokens and medals.

Concerning the above situation, I am sure the person involved was disappointed. The question must be asked: Why could NSA, Inc. not buy this collection for at least what the person had paid? After all, he had held it for five years.

To get a real answer to this question, and not brush it off lightly, one must examine the market for Alaskan tokens and medals. The medals and the modern tokens fall into one category, while the older trade tokens fall into another (you will note that that is how we break up our price lists). These two categories appeal to different people. There are those who will buy anything (no matter how old it is) and then there are those that will not even think of buying anything if it is post-statehood. There are those that will not pay more than \$20 for a single piece, and others that would not admit to owning anything not worth at least that.

Add those simple factors together, and throw in a few more, and then you begin to see the market for Alaskan tokens and medals. **BUT**, I want to be able to put some figures on it. So, with this issue is a self-addressed postcard. Elsewhere in this issue, you will find a reader survey. Please use the card for your responses. I think that I have made it broad enough so as not to violate anyone's privacy, and I want no names.

It is hoped that this survey will present arguments either for or against investing in Alaskan tokens and medals.

## YELLOWKNIFE'S 1985 CARIBOU CARNIVAL TRADE DOLLAR

Yellowknife's 1985 Caribou Carnival trade dollar is available at \$1.50 from the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce, Box 906, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada, X1A 2N7. A set of Caribou Carnival trade dollars for the years 1975 to 1985 is \$25 postpaid. Separate specimens for these years are not available.

A dog team racing in the annual Canadian Championship Dog Derby is featured on the reverse side of each year's trade dollar. The obverse side of the dollar shows the logo for that year's carnival. The logo is chosen from among the designs submitted by residents of Yellowknife. The 1985 logo featured a caricature of a caribou (the carnival's mascot) pulling a sled with 3 bears on it.

The Caribou Carnival Committee is made up of a group of community volunteers which functions for a short period before and during Yellowknife's annual Caribou Carnival, held each March. I would suggest that in March of each year, those wishing that year's trade dollar write the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber distributed the dollars during most of the years.

The Sherritt Mint struck 3,000 1985 trade dollars on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks.

-Jerry Remick

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Editor- Dick Hanscom  
Canadian Corr.- Jerry Remick

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JOE JEAN, cont.

We can't, in this space, tell you all of the Joe Jean tales he has entertained us with, but our favorite was the evening we patted his Labrador bitch at Mumtrak and told Joe "This dog looks smart." To which Joe replied in his wonderful accent. "You don't know how smart she is!" The eyes took on even more sparkle. "The other night we go down to the village and when we come back, that dog is sleep in our bed! I spank her good and tell her, too!" So on the following night, after a time away from the house again, Joe says "We come in pretty quick and look at de bed, but de dog not in de bed. She lying on de rug alongside de bed. Hah! She don' fool me. I see de hole in de bed. I feel it and it is still warm. I spank her good again. She don' fool me!" So came the next night, and Joe and Paulina went visiting again, but on returning this time, as Joe told it, "We come in real easy, den I rush into de bedroom... and where you tink I catch dat dog? She's stand by de edge of de bed...BLOWING ON IT!"

Paulina Thomas of Quinhagak became Mrs. Joe Jean there in 1919. We remember when she and Joe "retired" on healthy gold royalties to San Francisco. That only lasted a couple of weeks and they headed right back for their home on Goodnews Bay. Even that wasn't far enough back, and they enjoyed in later years a summer cabin many miles into the mountains on Goodnews Lake where each enjoyed prospecting their own respective creeks and claims. We remember only one time when Joe's eyes were not sparkling. They were filled with tears as he told me he was unable to bring Paulina, his wife he had married in the village of Quinhagak at the mouth of the Kuskokwim River forty years earlier, back from a last hope trip to see the physicians and surgeons at Mayo Clinic.

Joe Jean and his wife Paulina are among many wonderful Alaskans we can never forget. Joe Jean passed away at the age of 85, heading for 86.



JOE JEAN



PAULINA THOMAS JEAN

# YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.

COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS, 1981-1984

by Jerry Remick



The Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce issued commemorative medals from 1981 to 1984. These medals are still available, and have not been written up in the numismatic press until recently.

The 1981, 1982, and 1983 medals were struck in pure silver on 33 mm blanks by the Sherritt Mint. These medals weighed 14 grams. The 1984 medals were struck in .999 gold by the Royal Canadian Mint, and contained 1/2 oz. of pure gold. No other metals were used in the striking of these medals.



The 1981 medal is a salute to mining and shows a miner with his hard hat and lamp attached. A mine head frame is in the background. The NWT mining industry got its start at Echo Bay in 1930 when prospector Gilbert LaBine discovered silver and radium on the cliffs. In 1981 there were 7 producing mines in the NWT with yearly product sales of over \$350 millions. 1,000 specimens of this medal were minted.



The 1982 medal is a salute to aviation and features a bush pilot of the early days with helmet and goggles, and a plane with pontoons in

the background. The airplane was the main mode of transport and supply for Yellowknife in the early days. This medal was limited to a mintage of 1,000 pieces.



The 1983 medal is a salute to trappers and traders. The medals features a trapper in his parka with a cabin in the background. Trapping and trading are still a part of the northern lifestyle in Yellowknife and the surrounding communities. Trappers still supply many residents with food that has been the mainstay of the native peoples of the north for centuries. Muskrat, bear, fox, lynx and wolverine are all used in the production of warm northern clothing, and trapped in the area. The 1983 issue was limited to 650 pieces.



The 1984 medal celebrates the 50th anniversary of the city of Yellowknife. A mine head frame and a log cabin are featured on the obverse of the medal, with a large "50th", and "Yellowknife, 1934-1984" around the rim. Only 200 specimens of this medal were minted.

All medals feature the crest of the Northwest Territories. The silver for the silver medals was mined at Echo Bay and the gold is from Cominco Mines of Yellowknife.

The medals are priced as follows: 1981 - 1983 (\$100); 1982 - 1983 (\$70); 1983 (\$37.50). Include \$2.50 per medal for postage and handling. The 1984 gold medal is priced at \$400 postpaid. All prices are in Canadian funds. Order from Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce, Attn: Ms. Coral Flatt, Box 906, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada X1A 2N7.

## READER SURVEY

As stated in the editorial, we want to conduct a survey to determine just what the market is for Alaskan tokens and medals. Please use the enclosed self-addressed, post card for your response. Select your answers from the choices provided, and mark the card appropriately. Your additional comments and/or suggestions would be appreciated.

1) Of the old tokens listed on price list #7 (items #301 to #429), roughly what percentage do you have?

2) Do you collect: yes or no  
a- pre-statehood tokens  
b- post-statehood tokens  
c- medals

A token is discovered and offered for sale. It is offered to you by a person that you trust to be up front with you as to how many are available. It is a plain token, similar to the McDonnell Hotel on page 11. It is not a saloon, gold nugget, native copper, pictorial or other "sexy" token. Using the price ranges below, what would you pay for the token given the following information:

Price ranges;

- a) over \$200
- b) \$100 to \$200
- c) \$50 to \$99.99
- d) \$25 to \$49.99
- e) less than \$25

3) The token is presently unique  
4) 5 pieces are known  
5) 10 pieces are known  
6) 25 pieces are known

Next, the situation is the same, but it is offered by a person you don't know, or don't trust. It could be unique, or it could be a large hoard.

7) Under these conditions, what would you buy? (use the above ranges).

8) Do you buy more than one of a token, or only one for your collection? (only one; more than one)  
9) Do you consider your tokens and medals a collection, an investment, or a combination of the two? (C, I, C&I)

That is a pretty simple survey, but one that I think will be of interest to all. No names on the postcards please. Our mailing list is small, so if you further want to protect your anonymity, mail the card from a post office other than the one that your copy of ATC&PN is addressed to to receive a different postmark.

Just thought of something. Must apologize to our Canadian readers. Don't have any Canadian postage or post cards, so your survey response form has not been printed on a postcard. Please do not let this stop you from replying.

While the survey is directed toward Alaskan items, if you collect Yukon tokens, or trade dollars, then you can still respond. Old Yukon tokens would require an answer of yes on "2a", while trade dollars would require a yes on "2b". Questions 3 through 7 can be answered for either Alaskan or Yukon tokens.

## AUCTION LOTS WANTED

We are now accepting items on consignment for our auction scheduled for Anchorage on April 26th. Lots must be in our hands by March 29th. We are not only accepting Alaskan tokens and medals, but also US and foreign coins, banknotes, tokens and medals. If you have material that you would like to dispose of, this is a proven method to get the best price possible.

If you would like to consign items to this auction please write or call for consignment terms.

It is hoped that our section of the auction will have a good selection of Alaskan tokens, but that depends on the consignments received.

## N.S.A. INC. IS BUYING

TOKENS, MEDALS, STOCKS, BONDS, BOOKS, POST CARDS AND JUST ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE THAT IS ALASKAN OR ALASKAN RELATED. PLEASE KEEP US IN MIND IF YOU ARE SELLING.

FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: Glacier Pilots, National Baseball Congress, National Champions, 1969 and 1971. Silver colored, cast base metal, 37mm, numbered issue of 1000.



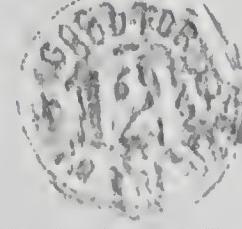
ATKA, AK: Sergius Golley Billiard Hall, 10c I/T. 18mm, Alum. (submitted by Alan Weinberg)



FAIRBANKS: Plaza Laundry & Cleaners. Token for laundry and dryers. Maximum measurements 24.3mm wide by 22.7 high. Brass. Value in laundry, \$1.25



FAIRBANKS: Plaza Laundry & Cleaners. Token for large capacity washers. 12 sided brass, 25mm, point to point. The token is 2mm thick, with an additional knob that is 1.7mm high on the reverse. What appears to be a hole in the rubbing is actually a depression, 1.5mm deep, shaped like \. Value in laundry, \$5.75.

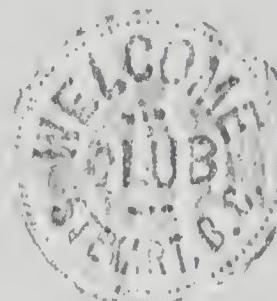


HYDER, AK: The McDonnell Hotel, 12-1/2c I/T. Metal not reported. 23mm

Mile 328 Parks Hwy, AK: Skinny Dicks Halfway Inn, One Drink. Red aluminum, 39.4mm. This is located roughly half way between Fairbanks and Nenana.



SEWARD, AK: American Legion, Post #5, One free drink. Black on wood.



STEWART, BC: Welcome Club, 50c I/T, 30mm. Metal not reported. For those curious as to why this is reported, Stewart is across the border from Hyder, AK. See ATC&PN, August, 1985. Les Hill also informs us that there was a Hyder, BC, built on piles across from Hyder, AK during prohibition.



MAVERICK: The Tanana, 10c I/T. S.L. Stamp Co. in tiny letters below Tanana. This could be Tanana, Fairbanks, or any other community along the Tanana River. There is even the Tanana Hotel in Dawson. Brass, 24mm. (submitted by Alan Weinberg)

FOR THE RECORD, a few more.



ANCHORAGE: Ensearch Center, 1 oz.  
silver medal. 38mm.



(FAIRBANKS): Eagles #1075, Good for  
one Drink. Gold on blue plastic, 41mm



FORT WAINWRIGHT: "Husky's", 171st Inf.  
Bde. 36mm, aluminum, holed.



SITKA, AK: Tarantino's Sitkakwan  
Gifts, Wooden Trade Kopeck. Blue on  
Wood. Features the copyrighted  
"Little Drook".



MAVERICK: A.C.C. Co. Mess. "17".  
Brass tag, 21mm across, 30mm with  
loop. Any one have any idea where  
this is from? Submitted by W.E.  
Hicks.

## RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

I am researching food stamp change for a catalog. I need information on two issues -- denominations, sizes, rubbings, etc.: Nome Trading Post and Teller with the zip code 99778. Both sets are metallic, probably aluminum.

Please send any information to Ron Benice, 25 Stewart Pl., Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact ATC&PN.

## CIRCLE CITY HOTEL, JUNEAU

From the Pathfinder, August, 1924:

Work has been started on razing the old Circle City hotel, a familiar landmark of Juneau. The hotel was erected in the winter of 1895-6 and opened on February 1, 1896 by Lockie McKinnon, now of the Zynda hotel, and George Miller, an old timer.

The Pathfinder was the official organ of the Pioneers of Alaska, and published by the Pathfinder Publishing Co., Valdez, AK.

## YUKON SOURDOUGH RENDEZVOUS



Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous, Whitehorse Yukon has issued a medal for Y.S.R. Week. 5,000 were struck on 33mm blanks by the Sherritt Mint. These are available from Jim Quinn, Box 291, Newcastle, NB, Canada E1V 3M4, for \$1.89 post paid.

-Jerry Remick

## KNIGHT ISLAND COPPER MINING CO.

For a future article, we need a clear rubbing of Valdez B-9a. Also need would be a photocopy of a stock certificate of the K.I.C.M. Co. Contributors of this material will be acknowledged.

**ALASKA  
TOKEN  
COLLECTOR**

**POLAR NUMISMATIST**

NSA Inc. • P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • Subscription \$8.00/year

VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 3.

APRIL, 1986.

KNIGHT ISLAND, ALASKA

The Prince William Sound area of Alaska is very rich in copper deposits. In the December issue of ATC&PN, we had a look at Ellamar, just down the coast from Valdez. Knight Island was also the site of much mining activity. In researching the stocks and bonds of Alaska, we have come upon a very interesting prospectus. This prospectus dates to late 1907 or 1908. It is a neat little piece of propaganda trying to convince investors to buy stock in the Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co. At first, we thought that this was the same firm that issued a stockholder's token, listed as B-9a under Valdez in "Alaska Tokens" by Ron Benice. This is apparently not the case.

There were at least 35 different mining concerns with claims on Knight Island. Both the Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co. and the Knight Island Copper Mining Co. had claims on Dryer Bay, on the west coast of Knight Island. Other claims were spread all over the island. Among the companies that we have seen stock certificates from that had claims on Knight Island are Hubbard-Elliott Copper Co. and Reynolds-Alaska Development Co.

The prospectus not only tries to sell the stock of the Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co., but it also gives some economic background of other companies with claims on Knight Island. The Knight Island Copper Mining Co. had sixteen claims, with a capital stock issue of \$1,000,000. The stock was "put on the market a year ago at 10 cents a share." It further states that "these shares are now selling on the Chicago exchanges at par, \$1.00."

The prospectus then goes on to explain the geologic properties of the Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co.'s claims. The values and very positive location on Dryer Bay are discussed. The ore also contained gold and silver, and these "alone should pay the total cost of operation, leaving the copper as net profit." Plans also called for a company store:

"As a further economy the company contemplates establishing a general store on the property, to supply the needs of the miners and others, as well as to reduce the charges on the supplies needed by the company itself."

Did they ever have a company store, and if so, were tokens issued?

(continued on page 15)

## MAIL BID AUCTION

The following items will be offered in a mail bid auction in Anchorage on April 26th. If you would like a complete listing of the 225 lots, please write. These are the only Alaskan lots in the auction.

140 Chatanika Single Fritz, Good for 25 cents to trade. B-1a. VG for more.

141 Fairbanks: H.B., no denomination. B-19a. About Fine with some crud on the obverse.

142 Ketchikan: Tongass Chapter No. 5 R.A.M., One Penny (Masonic Penny) B-51a. This is the last item listed under Ketchikan. Probably undervalued in the book. VG

143 Valdez: Northern, Good for 6-1/4 cents. B-13a. Fine

144 Alaska Statehood Medal: 1959 by Medallic Arts. Sterling silver, 63mm. One of these sold for \$410 in our November auction.

145 Alaska Purchase Centennial Medal Set: 1967, by Medallic Arts. 63mm .999 silver and bronze, in custom plastic holder, and in wooden stand. This is set #12, presented to Milton A. McRae for his contributions in planning and direction of Centennial projects. Very high relief.

146 Fairbanks: Alaska National Bank, 1000 grains sterling silver ingot by Franklin Mint. Part of a 50 piece set, one per state. Also, Juneau, B.M. Behrends Bank 1000 grains sterling silver bank ingot. Those are 2 of the 3 Alaskan ingots from the 3 FM sets issued in 1970, 1971 and 1972.

147 Trans-Alaska Pipeline: North Slope on obverse and Valdez on the reverse. Four piece set consisting of Sterling silver, brass, bronze and copper-nickel. Total weight 513g, and we think only 200 striking at very much more money than only 200 sets. Max add'l \$100 for custom plastic case.

## IN MEMORIUM

Laurence Lee Gingras passed away on February 11th, 1986, at 70 years of age. He is survived by his wife Laure and twenty-two children and their families.

Larry, as he was known to the hobby, joined the Vancouver Coin Club (now the Vancouver Numismatic Society) and the Canadian Numismatic Association in 1957. He served both organizations well, becoming a Life-member of the C.N.A. (#16) in 1960 and being elected an Honorary Life-member of the V.N.S. in 1961. The V.N.S. News-Bulletin was begun in the summer of 1958 with Larry as the first Editor, a position he held until 1965.

He joined the American Numismatic Association in 1959, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society in 1961.

During the C.N.A. Convention held in Vancouver in 1963, the Canadian Numismatic Research Society was formed. Larry was the principal Founder, and served as the first President, then launched the Transactions of the Society in January 1965, serving as Editor until the fall of 1977.

Larry joined the Canadian Association of Token Collectors in September of 1974 as member #91, and made several worthwhile contributions to CeeTee since then.

In 1979 Laurence Lee Gingras received Canada's highest honour for service to numismatics, the J.D. Ferguson Award, a medal suitably engraved and containing one ounce of pure gold.

Larry will perhaps be remembered most for his research and writings on the Medals, Tokens, Paper and Card money of the Hudson's Bay Company. His books and reference numbers are the accepted standard today.

— Leslie G. Hill

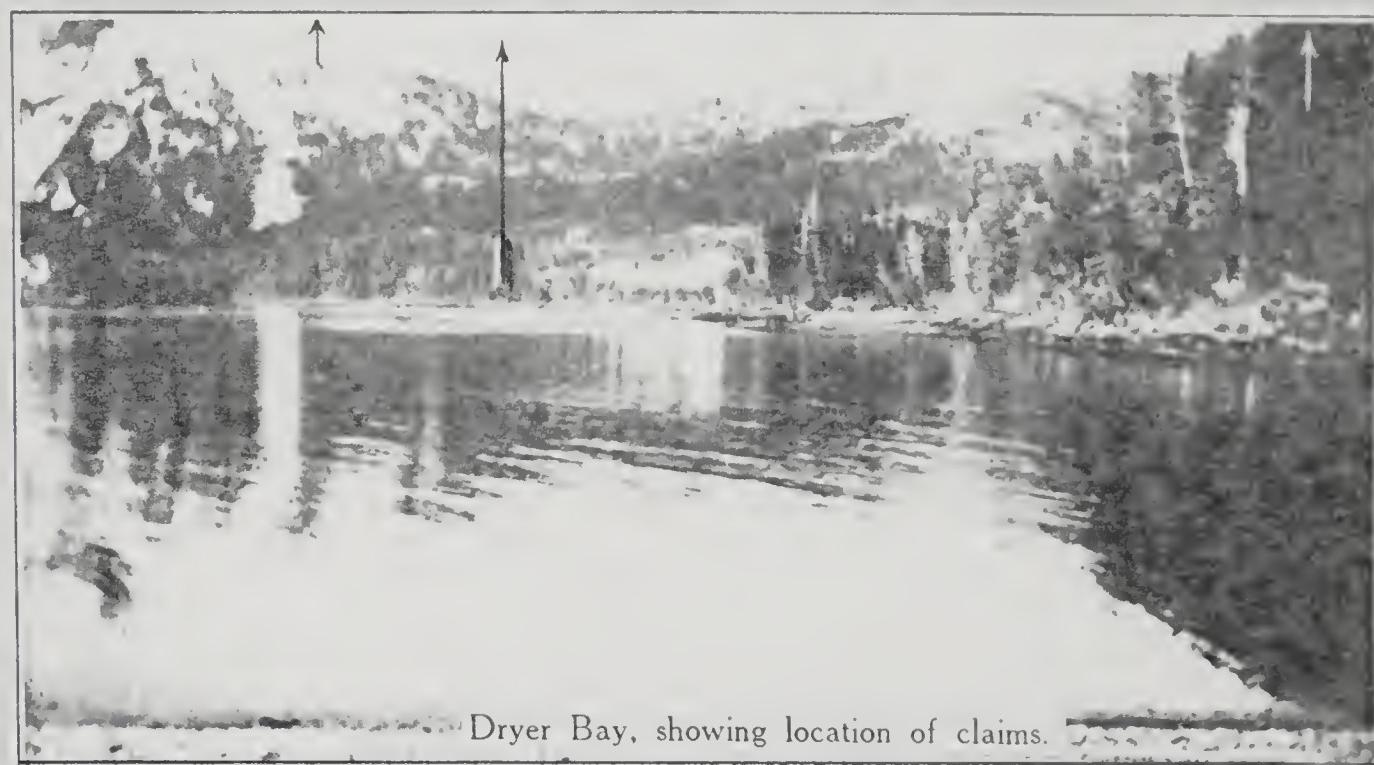
HELP KEEP ATC & FN INTERESTING  
SUBMIT AN ARTICLE AND RECEIVE A  
SUBSCRIPTION EXTENSION

KNIGHT ISLAND, cont.

Unfortunately, we do not know if the Knight Island Alaska Copper Co. ever had that company store, or even if they proceeded to mine their claims.

The map below shows the locations of various claims on Knight Island. It is from the prospectus and has been reduced twice in photocopying. Therefore, the detail is lacking a bit. The claims from which we have seen stock certificates or other items have been additionally marked, and can be found on the numbered index, below, and in the next column.

INDEX.	
Midnight City	1.
Reitkraus	2.
Van Gunther	3.
Crown Copper Co.	4.
Johnson & Gott	5.
Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co. (Cop 100,000)	6.
Leijegren, Rue & Dement	7.
Maneca & Valentine - KJA Copper Co. (Cop 100,000)	8.
Hubbard & Elliot (Cop 100,000)	9.
Clock	10. (Cop 100,000)
Ackers & Clock	11.
Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co. (Cop 100,000)	12.
Bussendorf & Wilson	13.
Tom Lawson	14.
Missouri John (Cop 100,000)	15.
Knight's Island Copper Co. (Cop 1,500,000)	16.
Nelson & Bonardo	17.
Simpson & Spornburg	18.
Walters & Grove	19.
Moore	20.
Ball (Cop 100,000)	21.
Tibbers	22.
Mason & Larson (Cop)	23.
Stephens	24.
Dago Group - Roberts	25.
Gibson & Harris	26.
St. Elias Group - Hogan, Ryan, Hompe & Davis	27.
Williams	28.
Dago Group	29.
Carter & Arnold	30.
Reynolds	31.
Bealson's Bonando	32.
Blackey	33.
Van Gunther	34.
Clock & Akers	35.



Dryer Bay, showing location of claims.

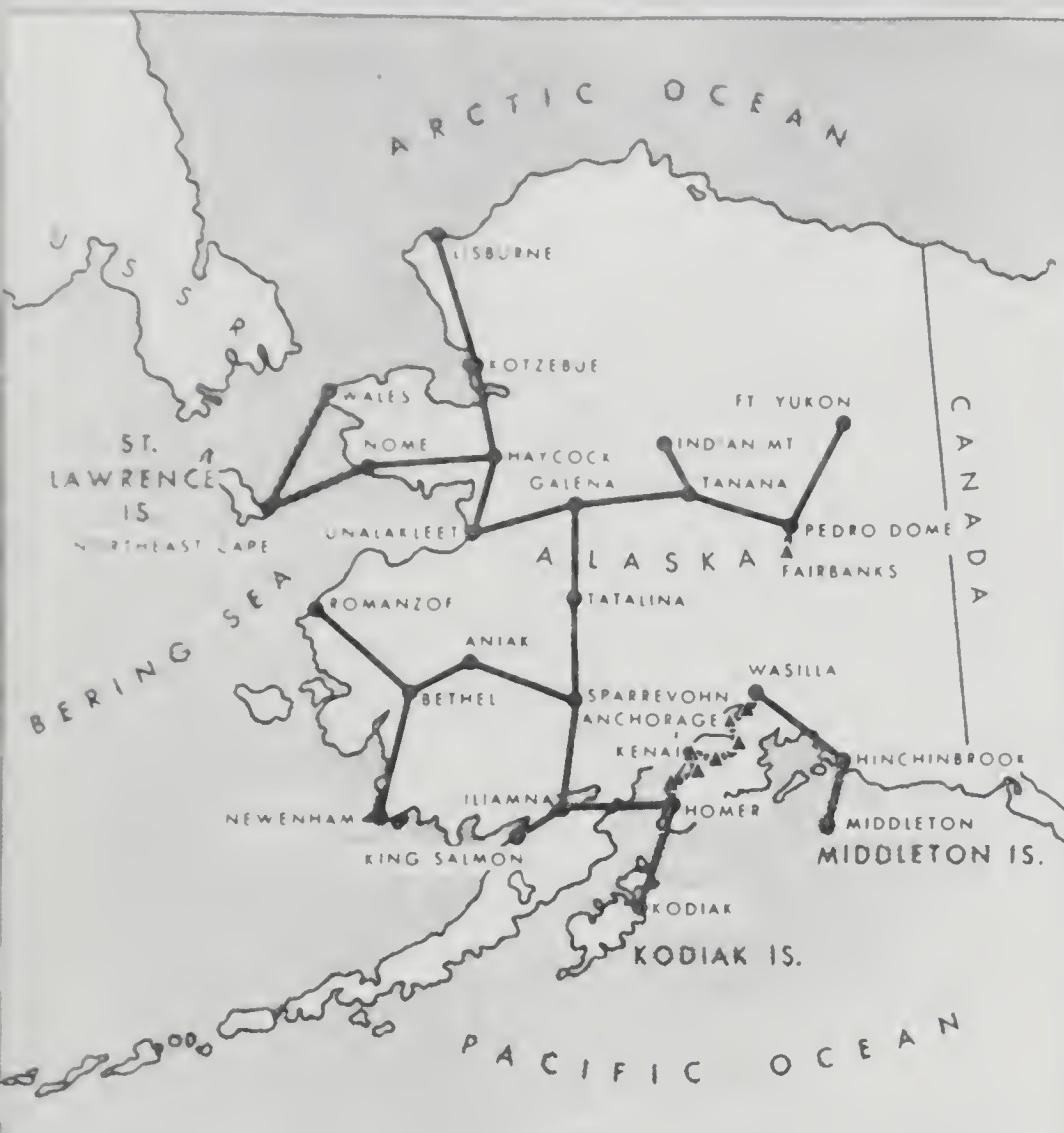


Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co.	6
Hubbard & Elliott	9
Knight's Island Alaska Copper Co.	12
Knight's Island Copper Co.	15
Reynolds	31

Please note that the current version of the name of the island is Knight Island. This is also the version found on the stockholder's token, and on the Knight Island Saloon token from Valdez.

Our thanks to Alan Weinberg for supplying the rubbing of the stockholders token.

## AIRCRAFT CONTROL & WARNING SITES



Map from: "Here is Alaska" by Evelyn Stefansson, 1959 edition.

The map above shows the locations of the Aircraft control and warning sites in Alaska that were part of the White Alice Communications network. Many of these sites used tokens in the NCO Open Messes.

Two sites that come to mind that are not on the map are Campion and Murphy Dome.

Many of these tokens do not bear a place name. Many have only the AC & W unit designation. These can be found in the index of Alaska Tokens by Ron Penice. Since the units are in the 700's, they can be found in the index under the 5's.



## READER SURVEY

Number of responses: 29

Question 1:

10;10;50;100;25;90;30;198;45;60;50;95;67;75;  
50;90;430;X;100;45;X;X;X;198;X;X;40;41;11;

Question 2a:

Y- 24      N- 4

Question 2b:

Y- 17      N- 11

Question 2c:

Y- 5      N- 23

Question 3:

a- 13  
b- 4  
c- 4  
d- 2  
e- 4

Question 4:

a- 1  
b- 13  
c- 7  
d- 3  
e- 2

Question 5:

a- 0  
b- 4  
c- 9  
d- 11  
e- 2

Question 6:

a- 0  
b- 1  
c- 3  
d- 6  
e- 13

Question 7:

a- 0  
b- 3  
c- 4  
d- 9  
e- 8

Question 8:

Only one- 13  
More than one- 13

Question 9:

C- 12  
I- 0  
C&I- 12

Well, above is the raw data from our reader survey. Next month, we will do an analysis. If you wish to submit your own conclusions, please do so.

Also, with the analysis next month we will have some comments that came in with the survey. And please, if you haven't returned your survey post card, please do so. As you can see, we have only received 29 responses, out of about 60 sent out. A 50% response is not bad, but would like

FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: Ptarmigan Coin & Stamp Society, A decade of service. Alum., 39mm. Limited to 500 numbered and 5000 unnumbered. Available from N. S. A. for \$2 plus SASE.



FAIRBANKS: Tanana Valley State Fair. Token of Appreciation, given to judges, helpers, etc. Free admission. Set of 6 tokens: Tuesday (red), Wednesday (white), Thursday (blue), Friday (green), Saturday (yellow), and Sunday (orange). 42.5mm plastic, all with gold lettering and raised rim. Reverse blank. (submitted by Bert Samso).



FORT GREELY: U.S. Army Cold Regions Test Center. 39.5mm, bronze.



PYBUS BAY, AK: Alaska Pacific Fisheries, 50 cents in trade. 29mm, alum. (submitted by Alan Weirberg).



TESLIN, YUKON: Teslin Community Club, good for one drink. Black on yellow plastic, 39mm. (submitted by Brian Denman).



WATSON LAKE, YUKON: Watson Lake Community Club. White on red plastic, 38mm, uniface. Presumably a drink token. (submitted by Brian Denman).



WHITEHORSE, YUKON: Whitehorse Curling Club. White on black plastic, 39mm, uniface. Presumably a drink token. (submitted by Brian Denman).



YUKON (GENERAL): Home Hardware Dollar. Home Hardware has outlets in the Yukon. 34 mm. (submitted by Brian Denman).



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VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 4.

MAY, 1986.

### MEN BUY GHOST TOWN AND MAKE IT THRIVE

PUT IN COLD STORAGE PLANT AT LATOUCHE, PREPARE FOR  
INFLUX OF NEW RESIDENTS

by

Daisy Conright

Times Staff writer

(from the Anchorage Times, date unknown)

One way of gaining a place in the town of your choice is to purchase the entire community, and that is just what Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bailey and five other enterprising parties have done.

Latouche, once an active mining town with a population of 3,000 has been reclaimed and is well on the way to becoming an important Alaskan city. Its oldest residents, those few families who remained in their homes throughout the years that Latouche was little more than a ghosttown, are amazed at the changes which are taking place.

Since the days when Mr. Bailey operated the motorship "Western Trader" in the waters of Cook inlet and Prince William sound, he has been interested in the little village with its strategic location and warm climate.

In 1930 the Kennecott copper mines at Latouche were forced to close because of low grade ore. No means of earning a livelihood was left for the town's many citizens, except the year-around fishing. All but three families moved away and the community nestled, almost forgotten, on a little island off the Kenai peninsula.

Mr. Bailey immediately began negotiations with the Kennecott people for the sale of the village. But it was not until February, 1942, that he and four other enthusiastic parties became sole owners of the 1,470 acres which included the town-site and all water rights.

A little more than a year ago the Baileys accom-



LATOUCHE ALASKA

Latouche, Alaska: Here is found one of the largest operating copper mines in the world.  
(continued on page 20)

## EDITORIAL

This month our thanks go to Mike Barnhart for submitting the story on Latouche. We hadn't heard of this before, and this just adds another bit of information to our files (generally between our ears).

The story in the next column is along the same idea, so thought it convenient to run it also.

The auction results are in the next column also. The tokens did well, while the medals did not do as well as hoped. There were a couple of good buys in the medal section, while a very premium price was paid for the Ketchikan Masonic. Lot 140, the Chatanika Bingle Fritz 25 cent token sold to a floor bidder for \$140, but we had a mail bid of \$250, so that is listed as the price realized. Basically, I "fell asleep" bidding for the mail bidder, and the auctioneer sold the lot to a floor bidder. Appropriate apologies have been offered, and I am trying to obtain a suitable replacement. Our methods of operation for the next floor/mail bid auction will be modified to avoid this from happening again.

Next month's issue will be very interesting if we can put together the information that we are looking for. We are always in need of articles, space fillers, and items for "For the Record". Please send them on in, and appropriate extensions to your subscriptions will be made.

## SHIP'S TAVERN

From Jessen's Weekly, March 29, 1946.

### SHIP'S TAVERN CHANGES HANDS

The Ship's Tavern at Kodiak, formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. William A. Schultz, was recently purchased by Harry Christopherson, owner of Christy's bakery and Kimball DeYoung, bakery employee, from Mrs. J. H. Pierce. Mr. DeYoung will be manager.

## NSA NEEDS TOKENS

## PRICES REALIZED

The prices below are from our auction in Anchorage, April 26th.

140-	\$250	144-	\$180
141-	\$120	145-	\$150
142-	\$395	146-	\$ 80
143-	\$ 55	147-	\$135

## CHILKOOT BARRACKS

From Jessen's Weekly, March 29, 1946.

### Chilkoot Barracks Goes on Market As Surplus Property

Anchorage--There's a town for sale in Alaska. It has dwellings, theater, hospital, fire house, jail, waterworks and all of the other odds and ends that go to make a town except the furnishings for the buildings, mayor, and the dogcatcher. No one lives there now except the seven or eight caretakers so there's no eviction problems if you buy the town.

This isn't a real estate dealer's hopeful wish - it actually is available as the U.S. Government, through Mr. Fred Johnson, Commissioner of the General Land Office, puts Chilkoot Barracks on the block. This historic Army Reservation, named Fort William H. Seward at the time of its creation in 1898, has been declared surplus by the army so 400 acres are now being disposed of as a unit.

Information concerning this property may be obtained after April 26, 1946 from Lowell M. Puckett, Regional Field Examiner, Branch of Field Examination, Anchorage, Alaska. Puckett has been named by Commissioner Johnson to be disposal officer.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Port Chilkoot merged with Haines in 1970 to form the city of Haines).

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Editor- Dick Hanscom  
Canadian Corr.- Jerry Remick

## LATOUCHE, cont.

panied by their two daughters and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Williams and Mrs. Hazel Watson and son, arrived at Latouche to bring to life some of their dreams for the town's future.

Since that time 50 homes have been rehabilitated, a large hotel has been rebuilt, a 270 foot dock repaired and the first unit of a huge cold storage plant constructed.

The latter will be the largest of its type in Alaska when completed, according to Mr. Bailey. It will have a freezing capacity of 40 tons of fish per day and a storage capacity of 1,000 tons per day and has (sic) storage capacity of 100 tons.

Eleven families are now living in Latouche and it is expected that more will arrive soon. Letters from all over the United States reach the town's owners daily, written by people who want to live there and help the community to regain its former importance.

"We hope to fill all the houses soon," the Baileys said yesterday while in Anchorage for a short visit. "We are interested in having families with children make Latouche their home, and are starting a school next September to prepare for an influx of school-age youngsters."

\* \* \* \* \*

Unfortunately, it appears that Mr. Bailey's plan for a thriving metropolis on Latouche Island did not materialize. Just recently there were plans for a small boat harbor at Latouche Island for recreational boaters and for those with homesites and recreational cabins there.

\* \* \* \* \*

## BOOK REVIEW

Iowa Merchant Trade Token Town Rarity List by George Hosek. \$5 post paid from the author: 7411 Idledale Lane, Omaha, Nebraska 68112.

George Hosek has authored another town rarity listing, this time for Iowa. The 37 page booklet, on 8-1/2 by 11 pages, photocopied on one side is basically a survey of collectors and what is in their collection by town and not individual merchant. This gives an excellent indication on the relative scarcity of tokens of individual towns. It should be pointed out that there are a fair number of collectors that collect only one token from each town, as there are collectors of world coins that collect only one coin from a country, and collectors of US coins that collect by type (not date and mint).

Receiving special attention are dairy, canning and saloon tokens. These are three popular collecting specialties, and collectors of these areas now have a reference to consult for these items from Iowa. There are 8 pages of rubbings of dairy tokens. The saloon and canning sections are accompanied by a limited selection of rubbings. There are also 2 pages of rubbings devoted to "Favorite Tokens."

While this booklet is not a comprehensive, merchant by merchant listing, it is quite valuable to even the casual collector that may happen upon an Iowa token. If a token is from a town with a large number of pieces known, it will be less desirable (and therefore of less value) than a token from a town with very few tokens known. In this way, Mr. Hosek's effort adds to our over-all knowledge of tokens, their rarity, and value.

**SEALEY & GELINEAU  
HOTEL  
JEWELRY, FURS,  
CURIOS**

LATOUCHE,

ALASKA

From "The Pathfinder", organ of the Pioneers of Alaska. March, 1922.

## READER SURVEY ANALYSIS

A total of 32 readers responded to our survey. Not all those responding answered each question, so some categories will not total up to 32.

Question #1 asked "Of the old tokens listed on price list #7 (#301 to #429), roughly what percentage do you have?" We had answers from 0% from non-collectors or societies, to 100%. If all those with 90% or more are eliminated, this leaves a "market" of 23 people (some of these are non-collectors or societies) for the relatively common tokens.

Question #2 asked "Do you collect..." 27 collect pre-statehood tokens, while 4 did not; 19 collect post-statehood tokens, while 12 did not; and only 6 collect medals, and 25 do not. From this, it is easy to see that the demand is much higher for pre-statehood tokens than for other material.

Question #3 through #7 asked how much you would pay for a token, based on a set of assumptions. The ranges were: a= over \$200; b= \$100 to \$200; c= \$50 to \$99.99; d= \$25 to 49.99; and e= less than \$25. The results, and assumptions are listed below.

Question 3: unique      Question 4: 5 pcs

a= 14	a= 1
b= 5	b= 15
c= 4	c= 8
d= 2	d= 3
e= 5	e= 2

Question 5: 10 pcs      Question 6: 25 pcs

a= 0	a= 0
b= 4	b= 1
c= 11	c= 3
d= 12	d= 9
e= 2	e= 15

The prices people are willing to pay decrease rapidly as the known quantity increases. But why 5 people would pay less than \$25 for a unique token, while only 2 would pay less than \$25 for a token with 5 pieces known is unknown. One can only assume a suspicion of unique items (more are bound to turn up).

Question #7 uses the same value

scale, but the token is offered by some one you don't know or don't trust. It could be unique or a hoard. The results are below:

Question #7

a= 0
b= 4
c= 4
d= 9
e= 9

The response to this question shows a fairly conservative leaning. But prices paid at auction in a lot of cases will dispute this.

One interesting comment was that there is a difference between some one you don't know and some one you don't trust.

Other factors affect price paid. Tokens from difficult towns are obviously worth more than those from towns with more tokens. But this was not in the set of conditions given. That is why the top value range was just "over \$200". One comment was interesting: "On an unlisted token from an unlisted town (ie: new town), although I might think it worth \$200 - \$300 (or so), I usually won't bid because of the 4-5 hotdogs that bid so high, you never would get it anyway."

The final two questions were fairly well split. Question #8 asked how many of each token you collected. For 15, the answer was only 1, while 14 answered more than one. Some indicated that these were for trading purposes. On Question #9, 14 thought of their tokens as a collection, while 13 considered them a collection and investment. No one responding considered them strictly an investment.

What can we conclude from the above? The market for Alaskan tokens is a very small market. Once half the collectors have a token, they do not buy another one. As the quantity known increases, then the price decreases accordingly. The sale of common tokens is difficult (thus a large buy-sell spread). Obviously, the scarce material will always sell well.

FOR THE RECORD



(CENTRAL, AK): Oxford Assaying and Refining. Pure Gold, Pure Silver, Pure Alaskan, Thank You. Black on yellow plastic, 38mm. These tokens were used at the Central Lodge, given by Oxford to miners selling gold, good for a drink. If a miner sold over a certain amount of gold, a red sticker was placed on the token and was good for a prime rib dinner.



CHATANIKA, AK: Chatanika Days, 1986. Wooden button, with burned in design of railroad engine.



HAINES JCT., YUKON: St. Elias Lions, misspelled St. Alizas. Set of 4 tokens: 25¢ (red), 50¢ (blue), \$1 (green) and \$2 (black). All plastic with white lettering. Uniface, 39mm. (Submitted by Brian Denman).



HAINES JCT., YUKON: St. Elias Lions, Set of 3 tokens: 25¢ (red), 50¢ (blue) and \$1 (green). All plastic with white lettering, 39mm.

PORTLOCK CITY, AK: Alaska Consolidated Fisheries Inc. Good for 10 cents in trade. Alum. 19mm. Rubbing not reproducible. (submitted by Lew Egnew).



WHITEHORSE, YUKON: 1986 Trade Dollar. Our Salute to Northern Transportation, River Travel, Our First Highways. These should be available next month from NSA. Watch next month's ATC&PN.



MAVERICK: Ryntad & Miller Cigar Stores, Alaska. Good for 5 cents in trade. Aluminum, 27mm. Can reverse sides. Ryntad and Miller importers to Alaska. (Submitted by Alan Winkler).

# COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST

NSA Inc. • P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • Subscription \$8.00/year  
VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 5.

JUNE, 1986.

"ALL THE COMFORTS OF A HOME  
AT SOLLY'S"



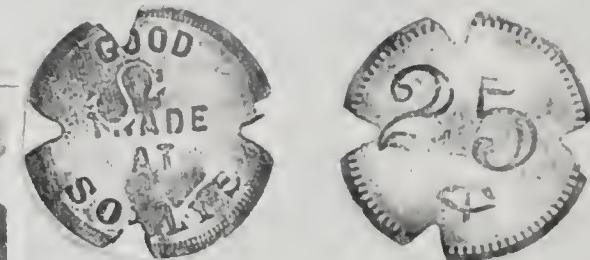
Christmas Tree Entertainment  
Fairbanks, Alaska Public Schools

The photo above is from a postcard published by Smith's Bookstore, who had stores in Fairbanks and Dawson. The stage advertising features an ad for Solly's. Can anyone advise what Solly's was, and if his initials, or those of a successor, were L.S.?



the "Eagle Cigar Store", owned by J&B (Jones and Brown, without Coulter)? I admit that this is grasping at straws. But the fact that the two tokens were found together, and then having "The Eagle" and Solly's on the same stage ad makes one think that it might just be a bit more than a coincidence. It is also a sneaky way (I hope) to get Ron Benice to provide us with some additional information on the J&B Cigar Store from Eagle. In any case, THIS IS NOT AN ATTRIBUTION TO FAIRBANKS for either token. If nothing else, I might find out if you folks are paying attention to what is in ATC&PN.

Once again, maverick tokens prove to be one of the most intriguing and frustrating of all tokens.



The token above was featured in "For the Record", Oct., 1983. It was found with a J&B Cigar Store token attributed to Eagle. Both had been found in the same basement in Fairbanks. Both had been clipped to form crude Maltese cross-shaped tokens. At the time, we had no idea where Solly's might have been.

Now, let's muddy the waters even further! You will note that there is also an ad on the stage for "The Eagle", and they sold wine, liquor and cigars (cigars are emphasized). The owners are Jack Coulter, Dan Jones and Billy Brown. Now, does Eagle on the token refer to the town, or to

## EDITORIAL

We have just seen the Polar Explorer stamps scheduled for release at North Pole, AK on May 28th. This block of 4, honoring Elisha Kent Kane, Adolphus W. Greely, Vilhjalmur Stefansson and Robert E. Peary and Matthew Henson, is very attractively done. You will note that this issue of ATC&PN was mailed from North Pole, and bears the First Day of Cancellation post mark.

Those wishing to receive first day cancellations should send their self-addressed, stamped envelopes inside another envelope to: Customer-Affixed Envelopes, Polar Explorers Stamps, Postmaster, North Pole, AK 99705-9991

**BRAGGING CORNER:** Your editor's head size swelled when he received notification that he had been accepted into the Numismatic Literary Guild. The head size shrunk back to the appropriate size very shortly thereafter. Admittance date was November 15, 1985. It didn't take me long to figure that acceptance date and notification date were about 6 months apart. Does this say something about NLG's enthusiasm about having me for a member? Nevertheless, I am honored, and hope that I can justify my membership in such a fine organization.

### NEWFOUNDLAND TRADE DOLLARS

Of interest is the fact that Gander will be the only island of Newfoundland municipality to issue a trade this year. St. John's, Corner Brook, St. Anthony, and Port Aux Basques, all previous issuers will not be doing so this year.

-Jerry Remick

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Editor- Dick Hancom  
Canadian Corr.- Jerry Remick

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$8 per year in the U.S. and Canada.

### 1986 YELLOWKNIFE, NWT TRADE DOLLARS

Carny the caribou, the mascot for Yellowknife's annual Caribou Carnival, is shown above the NWT pavilion built at Vancouver's Expo 86 on one side of the trade dollar. A dog team is featured on the other side. The dog team race is a major event during the annual Caribou Carnival, held in March each year.

The Sherritt Mint struck 5,000 pieces on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks. The 1986 trade dollar is available at \$1.50 postpaid from the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce, Box 906, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada, X1A 2N7. A set of traded dollars from 1975 to 1985 is available for \$25 postpaid. Single specimens of past years are not available.

### 1986 LABRADOR CITY TRADE DOLLAR

The town of Labrador City, Nfld. celebrated their 25th anniversary this year with an issue of trade dollars, valid at participating merchants in Labrador City until June 30th, 1986.

The obverse shows a triangle superimposed on a square, and superimposed on these are the initials I.O.C. for Iron Ore Company of Canada. The reverse features the town's crest showing a caribou standing on its hind legs on either side of a shield of arms with an owl on top. Labrador City is situated in the very southwestern corner of the Labrador part of Newfoundland, very close to Quebec. The mining of iron is the town's main source of employment.

The Sherritt Mint struck 6000 specimens on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks. Specimens are available at \$1.90 postpaid from Jim Quinn, Box 291, Newcastle, NB, Canada E1V 3M4. There is no person in Labrador City willing to fill mail orders.

An additional 1000 NBS specimens were issued with the initials "L.C.C. Band" just above the triangle and square. This stands for Labrador City Collegiate Band. Most have been sold locally but Jim Quinn is able to provide one per customer at \$5 postpaid.

-Jerry Remick

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO  
THE 1983 C.N.A.



Cornwall, Ont.  
Nov. 1, 1966.

To whom it may concern.

William Issac Oliver of Karsdale, Annapolis County, Nova Scotia was a ship builder and his son, my grandfather, was a seaman who sailed aboard many of the ships he built.

The original Oliver home was passed down thru the family until it was left to me. In 1952 while I was cleaning out the attic I found a little purple cloth bag in one of the trunks there. I opened the bag and found several coins, one of these was identified by a friend as the plug from a P.E.I. holy dollar. As my grandfather sailed all up and down the eastern seaboard I can only conclude that he must have picked it up in his travels.

(Signed) Emery E. Pease  
327 Susan Ave.  
Cornwall, Ont.

While there were no coins or tokens in the auction, there were many nice antiques which had belonged to Mr. Oliver and I hoped to buy something to have as a "go with" for my coin. The only thing I really liked was a painting done by Mr. Oliver -- a sailing ship -- which I hoped might go reasonably, but quickly the bids exceeded \$2,500 and the painting was eventually bought by a Halifax antique dealer.

Never mind, I had the memory and the thrill of attending Mr. Oliver's auction. Whoever said it's a small world, was absolutely right!

- - - - - John Cheramy

We are in need of more articles. We have a couple in the fire, but may not materialize of a couple of months. If you would like to share your information, just jot it down, and we will put it into print for you. Please keep the subject matter polar related, if possible. While the above is not polar related, it is of interest. Every collector has a story similar to John's. This will be our contribution to the "it's a small world" genre of numismatic stories.

In June 1983, Glenda and I arrived in Moncton, NB about three weeks ahead of the CNA Convention. It was our first visit to the Maritimes and we wanted a little time to explore and sight see. Geoff Bell picked us up at the airport and, after a tour of Moncton, settled us into our hotel room. The next day we hired a car to begin our explorations.

After seeing many friends and some sights in Southern New Brunswick, among them The Rocks, King's Landing and Hartland's Covered Bridge, we travelled by ferry from St. John to Digby, NS. Here we tossed a coin to decide whether to go east through the Annapolis Valley, or to go south and follow the coast to Halifax. The toss came up south, so we dawdled our way to Liverpool, where we spent the night.

The next day, while shopping in Liverpool, I happened to ask a merchant if she knew of any auctions. "Oh yes," she replied, "my husband is an auctioneer and he's holding an auction tonight at 7:00 in the Dartmouth Inn." Well, Glenda and I travelled quickly to Halifax and booked into the Dartmouth Inn at around 6:00 pm. We examined the auction material and found, to our amazement, that the auction was from the contents of a house in Annapolis, belonging to William Isaac Oliver of Karsdale.

What a coincidence! I had bought a Prince Edward Island Holey Dollar plug a few years ago (1976) from a collector in Victoria who had bought it originally from a Victoria dealer, Tom Winwood, Victoria Coin Shoppe. When Tom bought the plug, he received a letter to go with the coin, which I'll copy here:

1986 WHITEHORSE TRADE DOLLAR



Target Downtown, a non-profit organization involved in the revitalization of downtown Whitehorse has released an issue of trade dollars valid in Whitehorse until September 30, 1986. The Whitehorse logo is featured on the obverse side. A view of the sternwheeler S.S. Klondike is shown on the reverse. The S.S. Klondike was launched in 1937 after the original ship was destroyed. In August 1955 it made its last run to Whitehorse. The S.S. Klondike is now a Parks Canada Historical site at Whitehorse on the Yukon River. River travel opened up the north and remained the primary method of transport from 1866 when first introduced until the 1950's.

Whitehorse was Yukon's major boat building center, and southern terminus and winter berth of most of the sternwheelers. Whitehorse was incorporated as a city in 1950 and became the capital city of Yukon Territory in 1953.

Sherritt Mint struck 10,000 specimens on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks.

-Jerry Remick

Specimens are available from NSA, Inc. for \$1.75 plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Canadian orders should include an extra 25 cents as Canadian postage is not valid in Alaska or the US.

BUCK & MANGARELLA



(From the Yukon Territory Illustrated)

Among the many attractive stores in this city devoted to the retail trade the well known establishment of Buck & Mangarella, located on Second street, opposite the Bank of British North America, is worthy of special note. The sales room of this firm embraces 1000 square feet of floor space, stocked to the ceiling with one of the finest assortments of stationery, confectionery, cigars, tobacco and notions ever brought into the Yukon. A decidedly attractive feature is the tempting display of the confectionery, which consists only of the freshest goods in the market. The firm enjoys a very large permanent patronage and the transient trade is constantly increasing. The members of the firm, Geo. M. Buck and Frank Mangarella, are both Yukon pioneers of '98 and during their residence in Dawson have made hosts of friends and the extensive patronage enjoyed is no doubt due to the popularity of both members of the firm as well as to the select quality of the goods carried.

(submitted by Kaye Dethridge)

**Editors Note:** Les Hill and Scott Simpson in their book "Yukon Trade Tokens" attribute the B&M token to Burke & Mangarella for the B&M Newsstand", and note that they also sold cigars. Our own research finds that they were burned out in a fire in April of 1899, on the west side of First Ave.

Since both our research, and that of Les Hill and Scott Simpson turned up the name Burke, and not Buck, we can only assume that the Yukon Territory Illustrated is incorrect! Misspelling such as this are common, even on tokens. Briars appears to have been Briers (as used in advertising in the newspapers of the day). We seem to have heard that Davies & Frey should have been Davis & Fry, but don't remember where that information came from.

NUMISMATIC

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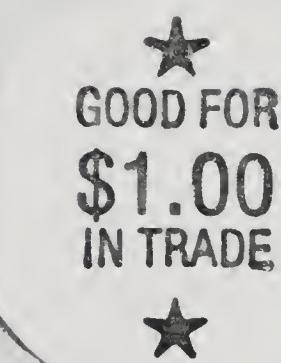
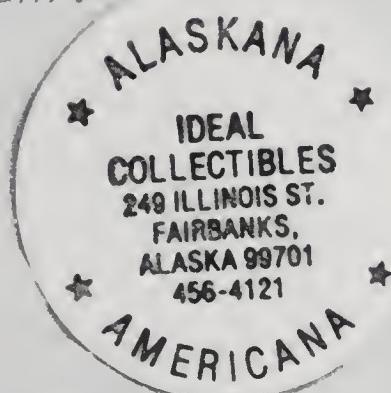
DICK HANSCOM  
ANA NIINS  
907/452-6401

P O Box 2832  
531 Second Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99707

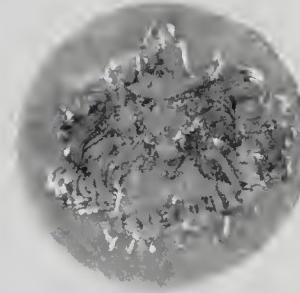
## FOR THE RECORD



(DAWSON CITY, YUKON): Dawson City Music Festival. Good for one drink (black on yellow) and Good for one beer (white on blue). Both plastic, uniface, 29mm. (submitted by Brian Denman).



FAIRBANKS: Ideal Collectibles, \$1 in trade. Set of 5 in red, green, blue, white and silver plastic, all with black lettering. 41mm. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



(FAIRBANKS): The Lonely Lady, (one drink token). Reverse is well endowed lady with long hair and cowboy hat, with "Fairbumps" across breasts. Gold on green plastic, 29mm. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



HARDING LAKE, AK: Harding Lake Store, Good for 5 cents on any purchase. Black on wood. While the wooden nickel says Fairbanks, Harding Lake is 42 miles from Fairbanks, and the site of a state recreation area. The Harding Lake area also has privately owned land, with seasonal and year-round residents. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



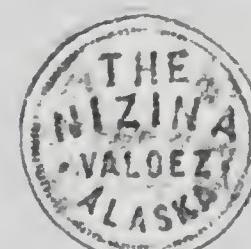
KETCHIKAN: Tatsuda's Supermarket, Token good for 5 cents off purchase. Blue on wood. (submitted by Dale Dexter).



KETCHIKAN: Tongass Historical Society 1961-1986, seal of the society, Town of Ketchikan 1886-1986, town seal. Bronze, 40mm.



MILE 328 PARKS HWY, AK: Skinny Dick's Halfway Inn. Good for one beer. Alum. 39.4mm. One drink token reported in the March issue.



VALDEZ: The Nizina, 12-1/2 Cents in trade. Alum., 25mm, recessed borders. (submitted by Lew Egnew).



MAVERICK: Northern Cigar Stand. 6-1/4 Cents. Brass, 20mm. (submitted by Lew Egnew). Offered at Mail Bid by Kurt Krueger as being from Ely, Nev.

# COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST

NSA Inc. • P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • Subscription \$8.00/year  
VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 6.

JULY, 1986.

## COINS OF THE KWAKIUTL INDIANS, ALASKA

by

H. D. Gibbs, Pittsburgh, Pa.

April, 1933

Reprinted courtesy of The Numismatist,  
official publication of the  
American Numismatic Association

The true numismatist is forever on the lookout for new and interesting specimens for his collection, and gets the most joy not in the mere possession but in the studying of the history and the reason for the striking or issuing of his specimens. Discoveries of the unknown varieties of coins are not unique, as constant excavation is bringing to light new things from time to time, but the discovery of a series of coins entirely unknown to numismatists (but well known to ethnologists) and of a shape and size entirely different from any other known coins is unique and interesting.

If a numismatist were asked what the largest and heaviest copper coin in existence was he would undoubtedly reply: "The ten-daler plate money of Sweden," but his answer would be incorrect, as it is a well-established fact that the Kwakiutl Indians of Alaska have for centuries been using copper coins of peculiar shape that are not only larger but heavier. A complete report of this form of money is to be found in the report of the National Museum (now Smithsonian Institution) for the year 1895 under the article "The Social Organization and Secret Societies of the Kwakiutl Indians," by Frank Boas, based on personal observations of Mr. George Hunt, Fort Rupert, British Columbia, with photographs by C. O. Hastings, Victoria, B. C.

The several specimens illustrating the article referred to were supplied by Prof. A. Bastian, Keeper, British Museum; Prof. F. W. Putnam, Curator, American Museum of Natural History, New York. This article is too long to quote as a whole, as it goes into great detail as to the methods used in handling these huge copper coins from one tribe to another, but certain paragraphs from it are quoted.

Page 344: "The unit of value among the Kwakiutl Indians is the blanket, valued at about fifty cents. All along the North Pacific coast, from Yakutat to Comox, curiously shaped copper plates are in use, which in olden time were made of native copper, which is found in Alaska. The typical shape of these copper is as illustrated." (Author's Note—See illustration of the specimen from my collection.)



Specimen from the  
author's  
collection  
5 3/4 by 3 1/4 in.

## EDITORIAL

As I sit and write this, I have not received my copy of the June issue of ATC&PN that I had posted with the first day of issue of the Polar Explorers stamp. If by the time you get this, you have not received the June issue, please let me know. I thought that it would be neat to have the first day cancel on the newsletter, but the delay that it is causing may make it not so worthwhile. Let me know what you think.

Our thanks to John Cheramy this month for calling our attention to the article by H.D. Gibbs featured in "The Numismatist" over 50 years ago. John also sent in another on the same subject that we will run at a later date. Our thanks also to "The Numismatist" for permission to reprint these. For those who do not know, "The Numismatist" is the official publication of the American Numismatic Association.

The last page is a price list/order blank. Many of the items on the list were featured in "For the Record" between January and June of this year. If you would like more complete descriptions, please consult these issues.

In up coming months, we will have articles on Punta Areanas and/or Tierra del Fuego, Wrangel Hotel, and GuggieVille. We are just waiting for information to come in so that we can do the articles.

If you have any information that you would like to share, please do not hesitate to do so. If you just have the bare facts, send that along, and we can whip it into shape. For the Record is small this month, so obviously we need submissions for this feature. Small space fillers are always welcome. And while we don't pay cash money for submissions, we do extend your subscription an appropriate amount. And your name in print as a contributer is the only advertising that can be "bought" in ATC&PN at this time.

Off to Expo in Vancouver July 3rd!!!

## ALASKAN MULES



Granted, I have been called a horse's behind, but Alaskan Mules has nothing to do with that! A mule is the improper pairing of dies. The above is the well known Kay's Kitchen \$1 in trade reverse with San Mateo Mainliner Coin Club. We have handled more of the mules than of the regular Kay's Kitchen.

We have recently learned of another mule. This one pairs the standard Alaska Purchase Centennial totem pole reverse with a Maple Glen, PA, St. Alphonsus Fair, Immaculate Conception obverse. The examined specimen is struck in the "nickel-silver", and we believe it to be a Wendalls of Minnea-



polis product. With the great number of medals using the Purchase Centennial reverse, it is not possible to determine what obverse was to be paired with it at time of striking.

We believe that the Kay's Kitchen is also a product of Wendalls. Both mules are struck on 40mm blanks. Kay's Kitchen is known in nickel-silver and brass, while the Purchase Centennial has been seen only in nickel-silver.

Whether these are true mint errors or mint sports is not known.

-Dick Hanscom

- - - - -  
We will be in the Vancouver/Victoria area July 3rd to 13th. John Cheramy will know how to get in touch with us.

## KWAKIUTL INDIANS, cont.

"The T-shaped part is called QU'LA'S, which forms two ridges and is hammered. The top is called the face (O'NUXLEME), the lower part, the hind end (O'NUTSEXSTE). The front of the copper is covered with black lead, in which a face, representing the crest animal of the owner, is graven." (The report illustrates Figure 2 from the Royal Ethnographical Museum, Berlin; Figure 3, United States National Museum, No. 20778; Figure 4, page 344, from the American Museum of Natural History, New York)".

(Author's Note - The following sentence is important:)

"These coppers have the same function which bank notes of high denomination have with us. The actual intrinsic value of the piece of copper is small (as is the case with most money except gold), but it is made to represent a large number of blankets and can always be sold for blankets."



Specimen Illustrated in the Report of the National Museum.

The order in which the sections are broken off and thrown away is indicated by the letters a to d.

(Note - The blanket is the current unit of exchange throughout the entire north country).

Each copper has a name or value of its own, a few samples being:

MA'XTS'OLEM - 7500 blankets.

This blanket has two cross pieces.)

L'A'XOLAMAS - 6000 blankets.

LO'PELILA - 5000 blankets.

And so on down to one blanket, one HAIDA', as per specimen illustrated. (Author's Note - on page 346, Plate 6, picture is shown of a chief holding his copper (MA'XTS'OLEM) which weighs over 90 pounds. The Field Museum in Chicago has three of these of various weights.) These coppers are used to buy blankets and are always sold to rivals, all members of the tribe assisting in raising the required number of blankets to buy the larger coppers. If they are unable to do so, the tribe loses "face" or "weight." The rivalry between chiefs and clans finds its greatest expression in the destruction of valuables or property. A chief will burn a blanket, sink a canoe, or break a copper, thus indicating his disregard of the amount of property destroyed and showing his mind to be the stronger and his power greater than his rival. If the rival chief is unable to destroy an equal amount of property, his name is "broken." A chief sometimes breaks his copper, giving part to his rival, who in turn must break a copper of equal value and give both broken parts back to the chief who originally broke a copper. These coppers are broken in the sequence shown as a, b, c, d on the illustration. The T-shaped part represents the most valuable part and is the equivalent of two-thirds of the total. It is not uncommon for parts to be broken off until all are gone. Sometimes a wealthy tribesman will succeed in buying up all the broken parts of a copper and riveting them together. (See such a specimen in the Field Museum collection in Chicago.) This increases the value. (See page 354, plate 11.)

These huge copper coins represent the wealth of the chief (and the whole tribe as well) and are their most valued possession. Consequently, they are very rare and are never parted with except in dire emergency, and are never sold outside the tribes themselves, and what few specimens have found their way to the various museums have been smuggled out by ex-

KWAKIUTL INDIANS, cont.

plorers, archaeologists and ethnologists who have visited and lived with the tribes and gained their confidence.

Credit must be given to Dr. A. M. Rackus, of Chicago, who was kind enough to point out these huge slabs of copper in the Field Museum, Chicago, and to indicate means by which their history might be learned, and this article is written with a view to placing before numismatists coins which have entirely escaped our attention heretofore. If any of our collectors have information regarding these huge pieces, it will be gratefully received. The small specimen illustrated from my collection represents the value of one blanket and is called "HAIDA."

(submitted by John Cheramy)

**Editors Note:** We have another article from the Numismatist concerning these huge copper "coins" that we will run at a later date.

- - - - - **FEEDBACK: MILLER HOUSE**

One comment regarding the Miller House tokens (December, 1985 ATC&PN): I'm not convinced that Jay Kelly issued them. He owned the place during prohibition and most places that were operating were not publicizing it with tokens saying drink or bar on them. History of remote Alaska in the 1930's gets very fuzzy!

-Ron Benice

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Editor- Dick Hanscom, NLG  
Canadian Correspondent- Jerry Remick

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FOR THE RECORD



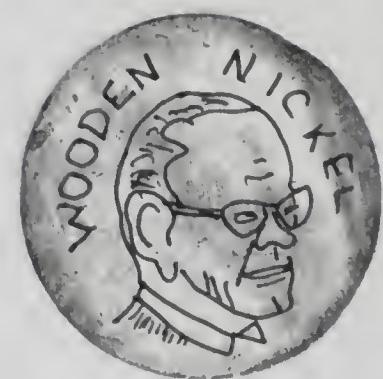
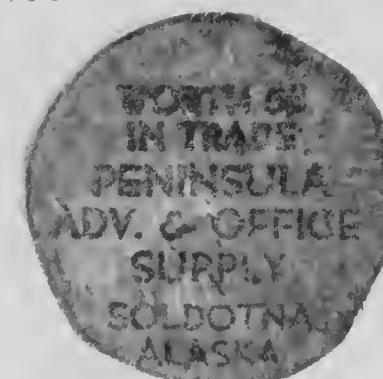
**KASIGLUK, AK:** Kasigluk Co-op Store, Inc., food stamp tokens; 1c black, 5c green, 10c blue, 25c red, and 50c pink. All plastic with white lettering, 27.5mm. Kasigluk is 27 mile NW of Bethel.



**KODIAK, AK:** Club Liquor Store, Ray Martin, Prop., Liquors-Wines-Beer, Domestic-Imported. Encased cent, 1941. (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



**SKAGWAY:** The Door Knob, Wooden Nickel. Black on wood. We have seen a wooden nickel from the Door Knob before, but think the Indian on this one is different.



**SOLDOTNA:** Peninsula Adv. & Office Supply. Worth 5¢ in trade. Obverse (sketched) appears to be LBJ.

- - - - - **NSA IS BUYING!!!!**

**NEW ACQUISITIONS PRICE LIST  
& ORDER BLANK**

- Anchorage, Glacier Pilots National Champs @ \$6.00
- Anchorage, Ptarmigan Stamp and Coin Club @ \$2.00
- Central, AK, Oxford Assaying @ \$2.50
- Fairbanks, Lonely Lady, Fairbumps @ \$2.00
- Fairbanks, Plaza Laundry, set of 2 @ \$8.00
- Skinny Dick's Halfway Inn, Good for one Drink @ \$3.50
- Skinny Dick's Halfway Inn, Good for one Beer @ \$3.00
- Fort Greely, Cold Regions Test Center @ \$4.00
- Dawson City, Yukon. D.C.M.F., Good for one drink @ \$3.00
- Dawson City, Yukon. D.C.M.F., Good for one beer @ \$2.50
- Whitehorse, Yukon trade dollar, 1986 @ \$1.75

FULLER DESCRIPTIONS OF THE ABOVE CAN BE FOUND IN ATC&PN, JAN-JUNE, 1986.

- Anchorage, American Legion, Post 1, set of 3 plastic tokens, 20c, 25c and 50c. Obverse with American Flag @ 6.00
- Anchorage, Cultural Capital, (#078 on list 7) in stock again, \$3
- Barrow, North Slope Boro. Public Transit, ty. 1 of bronze, \$2
- As above, ty. 2 of brass @ 1.50
- Haines trade dollar, 1979-81, (#217 from list 7) in stock again \$2
- Haines trade dollar, 1981 with bell @ \$2.00
- Juneau, Alaska's Capital City, (#230 on list 7) in stock again, \$3
- Trans-Alaska Pipeline, 39mm bronze, with pipe haul truck obv., map of Alaska reverse @ 3.50
- Hoonah Packing Co. 50c I/T (#341a on list #7), B-1d price reduced @ \$17.50
- Hoonah Packing Co. \$1 I/T (#342 on list #7), B-1e price reduced @ \$40.00

POSTAGE AND HANDLING

1.50

TOTAL ENCLOSED

PLEASE SEND TO:

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VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 7.

AUGUST, 1986.



## KETCHIKAN'S FOUNDING AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

Submitted by Dale Dexter  
Source not reported.



Tlingit Indians have lived and fished on Ketchikan Creek from unrecorded time. The same wealth of salmon (primarily humpback) that supplied the Tlingit's needs attracted other peoples from Canada and the United States to the area, and brought commercial venture.

Settlement by Americans began in the mid-1880's. Mike Martin, who was selected by his fellow elected council members to become Ketchikan's first mayor in 1900, arrived in Ketchikan in 1885 to look the place over as a possible cannery location for investors from Portland, Oregon. A 1920 history of the area says: "At that time there were canneries at Quadra, Old Kasaan and Loring but they were not paying. Mr. Martin and his associates planned to consolidate the three plants at a central point, and Ketchikan was the place chosen." The land was owned at the time by the Kyan clan of the Tongass Tlingits, but portions of the land were deeded over to Martin and his partner, George Clark.

Mike Martin is considered the major influence in the founding of Ketchikan. George Clark who also formed a partnership with Martin in the construction of the (city) dock, saltery and grocery store was a principal of the Cape Fox Packing Company of Boca de Quadra. He was formerly a Gloucester (Mass.) fisherman and moved with his cannery to Tongass Narrows to construct the Tongass Packing Company.

Clark would probably be recognized today as the founder of Ketchikan if he had not disappointed townspeople in treatment of his family in moving away.

The post office was established and the name of the community formalized as Ketchikan with George Clark named postmaster, March 4, 1892.

The Ketchikan Museum Department considers the start of commerce in 1887 the founding of Ketchikan.

In 1886, the Cape Fox Packing Company constructed their cannery where Race Downtown Drug now stands. They moved to Ketchikan as a new company named Tongass Packing Company. 1887 was their first year of operation. They packed for three summers before the cannery burned in August of 1889. Total output of the three seasons pack was 29,500 cases.

Continued on page 34

## EDITORIAL

Here it is, August 5th, and I still have not finished this month's ATC & PN. The main hold up was not having a lead story that I wanted to run. Just could not get excited about this issue, knowing that it would not be as good as I would have liked. I have several that are waiting for information to come in. And I have found a couple that would be worthy of reprinting from other sources, but must get permission to do so.

Summer is definitely the slow time for collecting, be it coins, stamps or tokens. Fortunately, there is plenty to do, both business-wise and for pleasure.

Our main pastime this summer has been putting things back on the shelf that have been rattled off by the work going on out on Second Ave. The city is putting in a utilidor "so they will never have to dig up the street again." If you believe that, I have a watermelon farm in Barrow I would like to sell. Ah, but you say that this construction project is only for one summer? Wrong again. Only doing half of Second Ave. this year. Will finish it next year!

But if life were all fun and games, it wouldn't be interesting.

As always, can use your submissions, be they a large article or space-filler. Appropriate credit will be given to your subscription.

- - - - -  
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Editor - Dick Hanscom, NLG  
Canadian Corp. - Jerry Remick

Subscription rates:

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Elsewhere \$18 per year

## ARCTIC WINTER GAMES - WHITEHORSE

The tickets illustrated below are some of the tickets used during the 1986 Arctic Winter Games held this past March. Submitted by Brian Denman.



### HOCKEY

#### Pee Wee Final

Friday, March 21, 1986

Game Time 3:00 P.M.

STAN McCOWEN ARENA

Std./Sr.  
\$1.00

Adult  
\$2.00



### VOLLEYBALL

#### Day Pass

Friday, March 21, 1986

Game Time 10:00 A.M.

F.H. COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL

Std./Sr.  
\$3.00

Adult  
\$6.00



### ARCTIC SPORTS

#### Day Ticket

Friday, March 21, 1986

Game Time 11:00 A.M.

PORTER CREEK JUNIOR HIGH

Std./Sr.  
\$2.00

Adult  
\$4.00



### CLOSING CEREMONY

Friday, March 21, 1986

8:00 P.M.

TAKHINI ARENA

SINGLE TICKET  
Adult \$5.00  
Student/Senior \$3.00

DOUBLE TICKET  
Adult \$8.00  
Student/Senior \$4.00

## KETCHIKAN, cont.

Although the local pack was light, even for that period, the resource of salmon continued to be utilized. In the years prior to the construction of the next cannery, which started in 1900, Clark and Martin maintained a saltery on the dock. Other saltery operations appeared and moved to promising fish locations as they were exceedingly transient only requiring investment in salt and barrels. Salmon bellies were salted and when possible the rest of the salmon was sold to a nearby cannery.

The continuing search for gold and other mineral deposits brought much activity to Ketchikan from 1897 on, providing the business and population base for the petition and election of the City Council and School Board which was necessary and in 1900 Ketchikan became a town after enabling legislation was passed in Congress that year. Six communities in Alaska obtained the status of "town" at that time.

\* \* \*

The medal illustrated on the front page of this issue was authorized by the Tongass Historical Society. They are struck in bronze and limited to 4,000 pieces.

## MORE ON MILLER HOUSE

From the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, July 5, 1986, "Looking Back".

50 Years Ago

July 5, 1936 - Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller arrived in Fairbanks last evening from Nulato where Mr. Miller was deputy marshal. He resigned the position a few days ago. He and Mrs. Miller will take over the operation of Miller House, notable roadhouse on the Steese Highway, 110 miles from Fairbanks and 50 miles from Circle City.

NSA IS IN NEED OF  
ALL ALASKAN  
TOKENS AND MEDALS

## FAIRBANKS GOLDEN DAYS PINS AND BUTTONS



The pins and buttons for Golden Days, 1986 in Fairbanks were a complete sell out. 5,000 of each were made, and were sold out within a few days of the start of our annual celebration.

The button is shaped like a heart and features a gold panner in blue jacket and red pants. The lettering is black. The background is white.

The pin is basically the same design, but the heart-shaped portion is gold in color, and appears as black on the photocopy. The legend is in black stating "Golden Days, Fairbanks, Alaska 1986."

When asked if they would make more to meet the demand next year, a spokesperson for Golden Days explained that they would not increase the numbers made, so they would not have to store the unsold items.

## THE HUB

The Hub is one of the most common Alaskan tokens. Yet in Alaska Tokens by Ron Benice, there is no mention as to what it was, or when. The ad below is from The Pathfinder of Alaska, organ of the Pioneers of Alaska.



**Hub Restaurant**

F. HERMANN, PROP.

KETCHIKAN

ALASKA

## A NUMISMATIST'S GUIDE TO EXPO 86

Expo 86 in Vancouver, British Columbia, was truly an enjoyable experience. For some one interested in learning about other countries, it was a feast for the eyes, ears and mind. Being interested in numismatics, I naturally sought out what was available for viewing and for sale.

The highlight of the Expo 86, numismatically that is, was the \$1 Million Dollar Gold Coin exhibit. One walks into this exhibit, and you are taken down a short corridor. In small display cases in the middle of the corridor are displays of coins from various eras. Coins from ancient times, the Renaissance, New World, Victorian era and modern proof issues are all represented. Unfortunately, a coin of William and Mary of Great Britain makes it into the Renaissance display, while coins from Russia, Great Britain and Spain are present in the display of coins of the New World. Granted, these powers were responsible for explorations and settlements in the New World, but these coins were regular issues of the homeland.

At the end of the corridor is the room housing the \$1 Million Dollar Gold Coin. This coin is made of 14K gold, and weighs 365 pounds. It contains 3,123 troy ounces of gold. This massive piece was cast in five blocks, and the design was placed on the coin by photo-etching. The design features the Expo Center pavilion. This is, of course, not a coin, but more properly called a medal. For security reasons, no photography is permitted in this room.

Also on display in the same room with the \$1 Million Dollar Coin is a gold banner display, with hard rock samples of gold, scales, and gold casting beads. Canadian coinage is also on display.

Upon leaving the room with the \$1

Million Dollar Coin, you enter a sales room featuring official Expo souvenirs. Among these are numismatic souvenirs. There are 4 different silver medals, priced at \$35 each. There are also brass medals priced at \$3.99 or four for \$16, in a display wallet. Finally, there is a 20mm, 10K gold medal for \$65. All feature views of the Expo Center pavilion and Expo Ernie, the mascot of Expo 86. These medals were available in many souvenir shops on the Expo grounds.

Most pavilions with a gift shop had stamps for sale. Only a very few sold the coins of their countries. This, I must admit, was a disappointment. Of all the national exhibits visited (I think I missed only Czechoslovakia and Hong Kong), only Australia, Peru, Great Britain and Yugoslavia had coins for sale. Barbados had their currency on display, and Costa Rica had some coins and currency on display, but in both case, not for sale.

Peru's exhibit is a must for those who like gold. Many Inca artifacts are on display, many of gold. There is even an Incan mummy. At Peru's little souvenir stand, at the end of the display area, among the items for sale are Peru's new coinage. Available for \$5 is a set of 5 coins: 5 and 10 Centimos dated 1985, 20 and 50 Centimos and 1 Inti dated 1986. The set is packaged in a soft polyvinyl chloride, and the three lower denomination coins are already discolored. These are of a brass alloy. The 50 Centimos is also a brass alloy, but has maintained its luster. The 1 Inti is cupronickel. All feature Gran Almirante Miguel Grau on the obverse. The reverse of the Centimos coins carry a statement of value, issuing authority, date and Lima mint monogram. The 1 Inti has the denomination on the obverse, and coat of arms on the reverse, with date and Lima mint monogram. The Inti has a face value of only about 5 cents, so there is quite a profit here for the seller of this set. They must have sold quite a few sets, as they were sold out on my first visit.

continued on page 30

EXPO 86, cont.

Australia's gift shop had many of their coins for sale. Unfortunately, they were quite pricey. The \$200 proof Koala gold coins were \$500 (about \$350 US); a bit steep when one can buy them for less than \$200 US. Old Sovereigns were priced at \$510! Most other items were more reasonably priced, although not priced for the knowledgeable collector. The 1984 mint sets were priced at \$9, and the new dollar coins were priced at \$6 and \$8. The 1966 50 cent coin was priced at \$6, while a complete 50 cent collection was \$30. The new \$10 silver coin was for sale at \$48. Along with the decimal coinage, the older pound shilling pence coinage was also available. Commemorative Florins were \$10 and the Crown was \$45. A type set of the earlier coinage was \$75. Old half pennies and pennies were for sale for only 75 cents, about the least expensive item in any of the pavilion gift shops! Some currency was also for sale.

Great Britain rivaled Australia in numismatic selections. The 1986 mint sets and proof sets were available at \$17.95 and 49.95 respectively. The sterling silver 2 Pound Commonwealth Games commemorative were also for sale. The biggest shocker were the Royal Wedding crowns for \$4.95! Many other single coins and sets were also on sale. Like Australia, Great Britain also had the old half pennies and pennies for sale for 75 cents.

Yugoslavia's small gift shop had a few items of interest for sale. As might be expected, some silver coins commemorating the Sarajevo Olympics were available. Also available were silver medals honoring Tito, in three sizes. Prices on the Olympic commemoratives were quite high, and the prices on the Tito medals were not posted. Using the old adage, "if you have to ask, you can't afford it", so I didn't ask.

In fairness to the country pavilions and the gift shop operators, it must be stated that many gift shops were operated on a concession basis. What

expenses had to be incurred by the operators can only be guessed (percentage to Expo? and to the pavilion?).

While not very exciting, numismatically, Expo 86 is a "must" if you have the chance. Admittance fees are \$20 per day, or \$45 for a three day pass. Not cheap, but well worth it. Don't miss Telecom Canada, but don't see it first. While the other audio-visual presentations are good, they are kind of ho-hum if you have already seen Telecom Canada. It grabs your attention, and holds it until the end. General Motors is also another presentation that should not be missed.

Now, will I be able to swing Brisbane in 1988?

#### FOR THE RECORD



\$1.00  
OFF YOUR  
NEXT PURCHASE  
OF \$10.00 OR  
MORE

FAIRBANKS: Kitty Hensley House, AlaskaLand. \$1.00 off your next purchase of \$10.00 or more. Black on wood. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



MAVERICK: Fairbanks Billiard Parlor, 2 1/2 cents in trade. Aluminum, 18mm. We have run this before, but the rubbing did not reproduce well, so here it is again. (submitted by Ron Benice)

#### THE EAGLE, L.S. & SOLLY'S

I accept the challenge and will write up something on The Eagle, L.S. and maybe even Solly's if I get lucky at a library I'll be visiting later this month. The net result will be even mudier water...but we'll know more about the mud!

Ron Benice

# ALASKA TOKEN COLLECTOR



## POLAR NUMISMATIST

NSA Inc. • P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • Subscription \$8.00/year

VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 8.

SEPTEMBER, 1986.



### THE J & B EAGLE CIGAR STORE TOKENS

by

Ronald J. Benice



Some of the most fascinating moments in token collecting are those rare instances when a long-attributed token becomes a maverick. Kay Fernald and Kay McDowell pictured and attributed the J & B Cigar Store 12 1/2 cent tokens to the town of Eagle in their 1965 catalog, "Rubles to Statehood". In the same year, Kaye and Nancy Dethridge, working independently, described and attributed the tokens to Eagle in their major revision of the earlier Gould-Bressett catalog, "Alaska's Coinage through the Years". Unquestioningly, I also included it as an Eagle token in my 1979 catalog, "Alaska Tokens."

None of us ever found direct reference to the cigar store in any directory, book or article. The token said Eagle and that's where we put it. Based on records of business activity in Eagle, some establishments with owners whose names began with B, and the token itself, I ventured a guess that it was probably early 1900's. But nobody questioned whether it was from Eagle until Dick Hanscom published a photo in the June issue of ATC&PN showing a stage backdrop in Fairbanks with an advertisement for "The Eagle" owned by Jack Coulter, Dan Jonas and Billy Brown featuring wines, liquors and cigars. He also uncovered a 25 cent denomination J & B token in a Fairbanks basement along with another token, a maverick from Solly's. Both were mutilated into Maltese cross shapes. Solly's also appears on the advertising backdrop in the photo.

I decided to look for a possible home for the J & B Eagle Cigar Store in Fairbanks. I believe I have found a good, if not perfect, fit.

R. G. Dun's "Mercantile Agency Reference Book" lists Jonas and Brown as saloon owners in Fairbanks from 1906 to 1908. The "Directory of the Tanana Valley," published in Fairbanks in 1907 shows the Eagle Saloon owned by Daniel H. Jonas and William J. Brown at 184 First Avenue in Fairbanks. Polk's 1907 "Alaska Gazetteer" shows Jonas and Brown as owners of an unnamed saloon at the same address. The 1909 Polk shows them as owners of a cigar store at 184 First Avenue. They don't name it, but it is not unlikely they used the same name as their saloon at the same location -- The Eagle.

Thus we have J & B, Eagle, and Cigars all together in Fairbanks. (In a future article, I'll show where Solly fits in.) I never found any references to Jack Coulter whose name is also on the advertising back-

continued on page 36

## EDITORIAL

Our thanks to Ron Benice for the article on the J & B Eagle Cigar Store. It wasn't nice for me to challenge him to come up with some information. There are some people that you can't do that to. But I do know that Ron likes a challenge, and I am glad that I found one that was worthy of his efforts, and not a wild goose chase.

Now, as for paying attention (at the end of the article in the June ATC&PN), the only one that seems to be paying attention is Ron Benice. Is anyone home out there? We have received very little in the way of contributions of articles or even "For the Record" lately. I've said it before and I'll say it again: This publication will be only as good as the information that the readers provide. While I am in a good position to dig up information, what I can dig up will not fill 10 issues per year. So if you have any information to share, please send it in. (You can tell how much I am trying to stretch things by how few abbreviations I use!)

Finally, you will notice a new format on the inside pages of this month's issue. It has been suggested that I leave some space on the left side for binding. I had thought of this, but didn't do anything about it. Well, the suggestion came in and here is the result. Any comments? This is in 12 letters per inch, while the front page, and all previous issues from this computer have been in 10 letters per inch. This format will provide for a letter or two more per line, so a bit more information per page (yes, more space for me to fill). Please let me have your comments.

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Editor- Dick Hanscom, NLG  
Canadian Corr.- Jerry Remick, NLG

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## 1986 GANDER TRADE DOLLAR



The insignia of the 101st Airborn Division of the United States Army, a screaming eagle encased by a shield, is featured on the obverse side of the 1986 Gander, Newfoundland trade dollar. This memorializes the many U.S. soldiers killed in the disastrous air crash in Gander in 1985 on their way home from overseas duty for the Christmas holidays. A Canadian goose in flight, the emblem of the town of Gander and the Chamber of Commerce, is featured on the reverse side.

The Sherritt Mint struck 12,000 specimens on 33mm nickel-bonded-steel blanks. Specimens are available at \$1.50 postpaid from Gander Chamber of Commerce, 109 Trans Canada Highway, Gander, Newfoundland, Canada A1V 1P6. Past issues are available postpaid as follows: 1982 (\$2.50), 1983 (\$2.25), 1984 (\$2.00) and 1985 (\$1.75).

- - - - - Jerry Remick

## TRANSPORTATION TOKEN ROLL



Above is the new paper roller for the Fairbanks North Star Borough transportation tokens. The rate has been increased to 80 cents per token in rolls of 10. The cash price of the bus ride is still \$1. (I don't even want to think of what the actual cost of the bus ride is to the taxpayer.)

- - - - -  
N.S.A. IS BUYING  
PLEASE WRITE OR CALL

## J & B. cont.

droe in the photograph. Presumably his interest was short lived since he didn't appear in any of the directories or on the tokens.

In my opinion, the J & B tokens were issued for the Eagle Cigar Store in Fairbanks.

But there is more. The new maverick pictured here from "The Eagle" is a brass token similar in type to some used in Alaska in this period. It has no J & B, no cigar store, just "The Eagle". Is it also from Fairbanks?



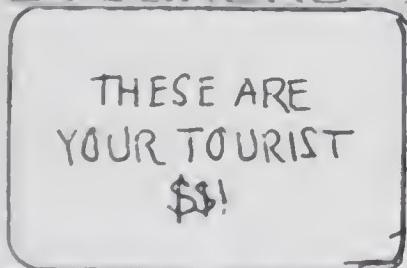
## STOCKS AND BONDS LIST AVAILABLE

The second edition of the Preliminary Listing of Alaskan Stocks and bonds is now available. This edition lists over 140 stocks and bonds, more than doubling the number listed in the first edition.

Each listing is accompanied by data concerning the date and place of incorporation, color of printing, information on shares, size, vignettes, printer and any additional information of interest.

This edition is over 40 pages, in computer print out format and is priced at \$5, postpaid. Subscribers to ATC&PN may use the order blank on the last page of this issue to order.

## STICKERS IN FAIRBANKS



Stickers seem to be the rage in my son's daycare. All the kids there have to have stickers or they are just not "with it" (this is 2 to 5 year olds!). This summer, at least three stickers have appeared on the coin and currency of Fairbanks.

Above and to the left is a black on gold sticker found on currency. The purpose of

this is evident. This is to impress on the local population the impact that the tourism industry has on the economy.

The purpose of the sticker to the right is less evident. This black on yellow sticker, apparently made with a rubber stamp, is appearing on Canadian 25 cent coins. A few months back, the city changed the parking meters to accept only quarters, with a minimum time purchased being 1 hour. Previously, the meters accepted nickels and dimes for time in multiples of 6 minutes. And this was after the city had put a bag over the meters and allowed 2 hours free parking. People coming down town now have to buy an hour of time, even if they are only staying a few minutes (or risk a \$5 parking ticket). Downtown merchants' protests have fallen on deaf ears.

Canadian coins circulate relatively freely in Fairbanks, with no discount. The theory apparently is to flood the City Government with the Canadian coins. Then maybe the bank that the city deals with would get tired of the Canadian coins, and make city sort and exchange the Canadian coins. Hopefully, the hassle would make the city go back to the 2 hours of free parking.



Above is our final sticker, this one to show the local population the importance of Placer Mining in Alaska. As many of you know, the Federal Government and the environmentalists are trying to shut down the small miners, and lock up the land in Alaska. Our sample came from a \$100 bill.

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## UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM



Portrayed on the obverse of this medal is the Woolly Mammoth as designed by well known Alaskan artist James Behlke. Recently the Alaska legislature named the Woolly Mammoth the State Fossil. The seal of the University of Alaska encompasses the reverse of the medal.

The University was established in 1917 and has grown to include campuses in every major Alaskan city. The museum is an important part of the University and was listed as one of the top ten attractions in the state.

All medals weigh one troy ounce and are struck in .999 pure gold or silver. There are 500 gold and 4,000 silver numbered medals authorized. The balance struck will be unnumbered.

Prices are \$600 for the gold (on special order only) and \$28 for the silver. See the order blank on the last page.



## NEW DAWSON ITEMS

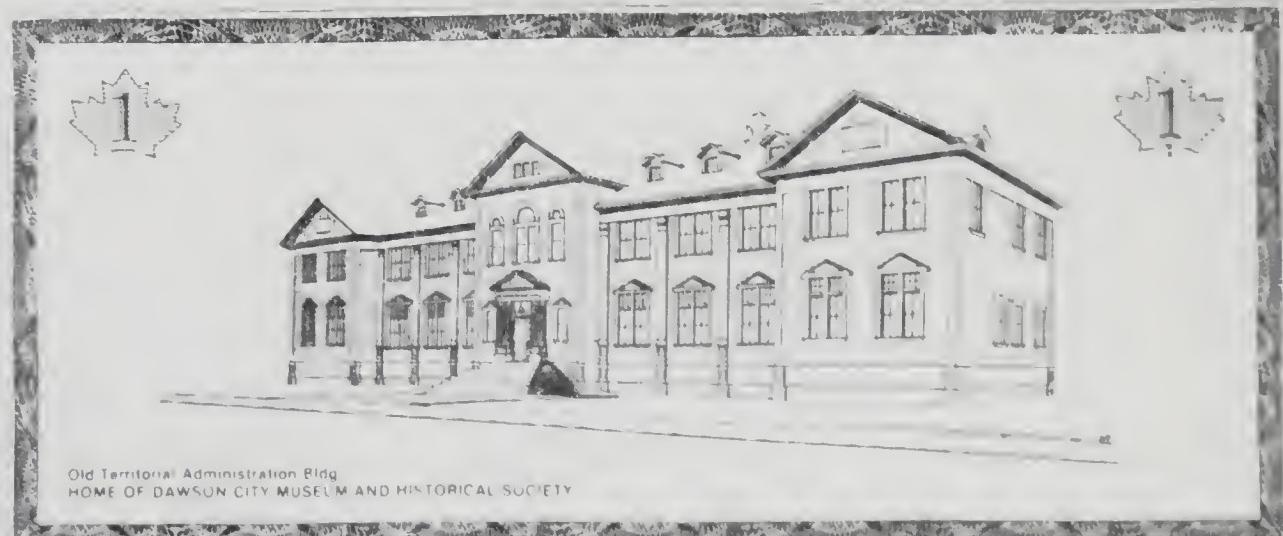
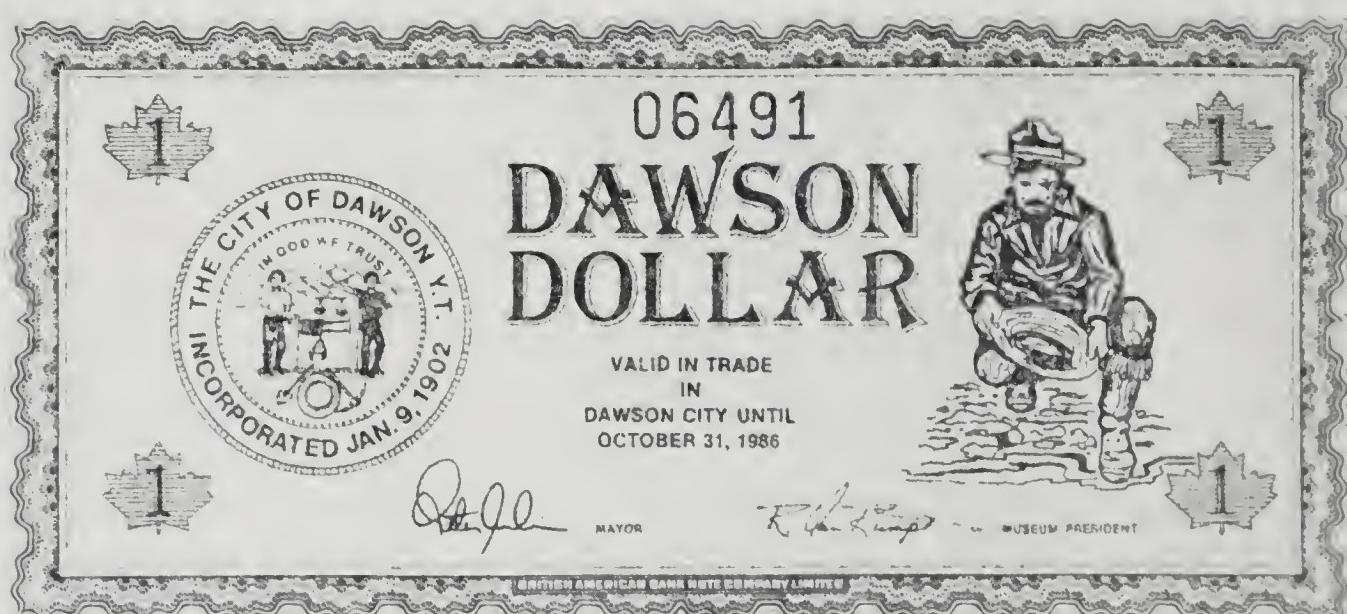
A friend has just returned from Dawson with a couple of new items.

Below, in the left column is the new \$1 chip from Diamond Tooth Gertie's. It is gold on black. Also of interest is that they have stopped using the 50 cent chips.

Directly below is the municipal trade dollar currency. The notes are printed by the British American Bank Note Company Limited. The border and underprint on the front and all printing on the back is in green. The rest of the printing on the front is in black, with serial number in red.

The front features a gold panner, while the back shows the old Territorial Administration Building, present home of the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society.

Use order blank on last page to order.



## FOR THE RECORD

CLUB  
MOTHER BEAR  
BARTER  
ISLAND  
ALASKA

GOOD  
FOR 50¢ IN  
DRINKS

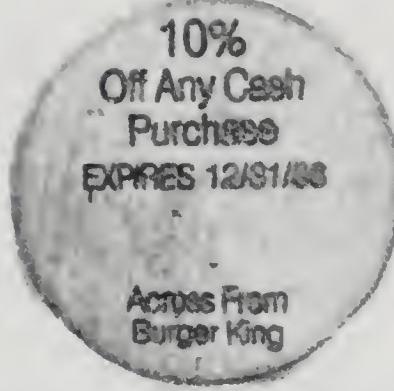
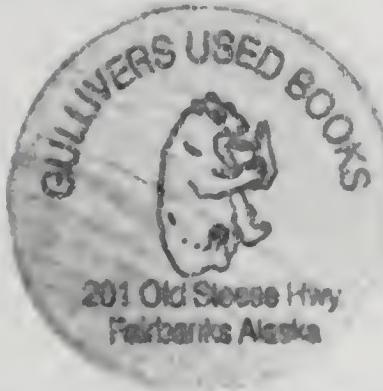
BARTER ISLAND: Club Mother Bear, 50 cents in drinks, layout as above. This has long been known, but not seen. The tokens are black plastic with white lettering, 8 sided and 24mm in diameter from point to point.



FAIRBANKS: Nevada Bar, 25 cents in trade. Aluminum, 25.7mm.



FAIRBANKS: Nevada Bar, \$1 in trade. Aluminum, 30.8mm.



FAIRBANKS: Gulliver's Used Books, 10% off any cash purchase. Red on wood.

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH: Inscribed on the back: "K.P.B.S.D. /SECOND PLACE/ WRESTLING TOURN/ 1979". (Kenai Peninsula Borough School District). Silver colored metal with loop at top. Suspended from a red, white and blue neck ribbon. 45.5mm. (Illustrated at the top of the next column).



MAVERICK: Dietz Road House, 12 1/2 cents in trade. Brass, 25mm. Report of the Governor, 1901 shows a Herman G. Dietz having paid for a license for a restaurant at Kougrack (Dictionary of Alaska Place Names shows this as Kougarok). Kougarok seems to have had a very short existence, so it is likely that if Herman Dietz did issue this token, he may have done it from some other locality. The Seward Peninsula area is a good guess, as there were a large number of road houses on the trails between the mining camps. Kougarok is located along the road from Nome to Taylor.

### NEVADA BAR, FAIRBANKS



We have recently purchased single specimens of the Nevada Bar tokens at the left and 28 of the 5 cents token, illustrated above. We know of an additional example of each token in a local collection. We do not believe that our source for these has any more. If more do turn up, you will be the second to know (we will, hopefully, be the first so that we can pass this information along).

The 5 cents tokens are offered for sale at \$9.50. Please use the order blank below.

# COLLECTOR



# POLAR NUMISMATIST

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VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 9.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1986.

O. KRAFT & SON, INC.  
KODIAK, ALASKA

Printed courtesy of O. Kraft & Son, Inc.

O. Kraft and Son, Inc. is a service and merchandising firm that has been well known over a period of many years to Kodiak area residents. The firm's long record of devoted service to Kodiak and nearby islands spans a period of 83 years. Mr. Otto Kraft, the founder of O. Kraft & Son, arrived in March, 1885 on the schooner Karluk which had sailed from San Francisco. For several years Mr. Kraft managed the North American Commercial Company on Woody Island, which traded merchandise for furs of all types in that area. The only other store serving the small community at that time was the Alaska Commercial Company. Only Russian money was used, and the universal language was Russian.

Mr. Otto Kraft founded the firm of O. Kraft & Son in 1903. A few years after its founding, Ben Kraft, son of Otto became a partner in the firm. During the firm's early years it served the Kodiak community not only as its trading post but also as a bank. During these early years, the business of Kodiak and all employment was seasonal, with only one big payday each year after the close of the salmon season. In the 1930's the firm purchased the "M/V Mavis" and successfully bid the U.S. Mail contract which involved a monthly delivery of mail to the villages around Kodiak Island. The vessel also served as a store for furnishing supplies to the villagers and purchased the yearly fur catch from the island's inhabitants. During the same period of years, the firm purchased the Kodiak Fishery Cannery which is now known as the City dock. With this property the firm handled the incoming freight for the town and also was agent for the Railway Express Company. The firm sold its dock and warehouse facilities to the U.S. Army at the start of World War II. The U.S. Navy drafted the services of the "M/V Mavis" for the duration of the war.

The firm assisted in the founding of the Bank of Kodiak in 1940; however, this did not stop the service of the firm to the old timers who preferred to leave their money with Kraft. They received no interest. Instead, the firm furnished services such as paying their taxes and utility and doctor bills.

In 1940, Otto Kraft retired and his interest in the business was purchased by his son, Ben Kraft, who became sole owner of O. Kraft & Son. In this same year Walter Kraft, the son of Ben Kraft began working in the firm's office. In addition to his duties in the office, Walter also acted as radio operator and fur buyer on the firm's "M/V Mavis" and supervised the ships store operations servicing the island villages.

continued on page 43

## EDITORIAL

October was a good month to have as my second month off! We moved the store over the weekend of September 27 and 28. Only about 50 yards up the street, but still a lot of work. For those of you that may get to Fairbanks, our new street address is 551 Second Ave. Maybe in the next month or so when we get organized and the darkroom is no longer a storage room for things we don't know what to do with, we will run a photo. If I must say so myself, this new shop is a vast improvement over our last one. Those of you who had been in our old store will be amazed at the difference.

Our thanks this month goes of O. Kraft & Son, Inc. for permission to use the article about their firm. Hope that you find this of interest.

For the Record this month is interesting, with two possible Cordova tokens.

If you have any information to share, please send it along. Your subscription will be extended an appropriate length, depending on your contribution.

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## MORE ON FAIRBANKS EAGLE TOKENS

Now that the Eagle Cigar Store tokens have moved to Fairbanks (ATC&PN 9/86), their relationship to other known Fairbanks tokens becomes of interest. Fairbanks 13a is "The Eagle, Ritchey and Frick". The 1909 Polk shows Clarence F. Ritchey and Jackson B. Frick as owners of the Eagle Saloon at 184 First Ave. -- the same address as the Eagle Cigar Store in the same reference book. Perhaps the saloon and cigar store were two separate businesses under the same roof or perhaps the business was splitting up. In the 1907 Polk, Frick is shown as a bartender -- working for Jonas and Brown at 184 First Ave.

If any reader has the Ritchey and Frick token, it would be great if they could send in a rubbing so that the subscribers to ATC&PN can see what this part of the Eagle story looks like.

-Ronald J. Benice

## FEEDBACK: DIETZ ROADHOUSE

From Ron Benice: There is no Dietz Road House listed in "Alaska's Historic Roadhouses." This, of course doesn't prove anything. There is no Dietz listed anywhere in the Dun references for each year from 1899 through 1909. This also doesn't prove anything and there are more references to be checked in due time. Aside from that, the token looks right and I suspect that one or the other of us will attribute it over the years.

From Lew Egnew: I am quite certain that the "Dietz Road House" token illustrated in journal is from Dietz, Wyoming. That is where I have mine, which was received along with a nice group which were all either Montana or Wyoming tokens. There is also the possibility it is Frank Dietz from Westmore, Montana listed as confectioner, grocer, etc.

Again from Ron Benice, after I passed along Lew's comments: I do not believe that Alaska has a monopoly on roadhouses. Alaskan roadhouses may be a unique form, but the word has wider use. The Random House Dictionary defines it as "an inn, dance hall, tavern, night club, etc. located on a highway, especially one established beyond city limits to take advantage of milder county laws pertaining to the sale of alcoholic beverages." Websters unabridged has three meanings -- one very similar to the preceding, another "an inn furnishing meals and lodging to travelers" and then "an often rudely constructed hotel or lodge in Alaska and northern Canada. I'll keep looking in directories.

- - - - -

## HOARD?????

At our Northwest Token Collectors show held at Tacoma on September 7th, two (or more) of the coupon booklets from Eagle, AK previously reported in ATC&PN turned up, so there are more around. This may prevent someone paying way too much for a single coupon as I did. The booklets were all complete & full, no coupons missing.

-Lew Egnew

Ed. note- We saw a booklet this summer also and were assured that there were no more! Caveat emptor!

## O. KRAFT, cont.

In 1953 the firm built a modern supermarket to service the Kodiak community. This was the only building owned by the company to survive the 1964 earthquake and tidal wave. Despite severe damage to this market building, management proceeded with a clean-up campaign and was able to re-open within two weeks. Other departments of the firm, such as dry goods, hardware and sporting goods were totally destroyed by the tidal wave and were subsequently, on a minor scale, opened in other small locations in the Kodiak area.

The firm was incorporated in 1955 at which time the officers were Ben Kraft, President; Walter O. Kraft, Vice-President and Edna Kraft, Secretary-Treasurer. With the death of Ben Kraft in October, 1959, his son, Walter O. Kraft, succeeded to the Presidency of the firm.

Prior to the 1964 disaster the firm had on its payroll 37 employees, most of which have been with the firm for many years, some as long as 25 years. The firm serves many villages along the Aleutian chain and the canneries around Kodiak Island. The villages on or near Kodiak Island which are serviced by the firm are Afognak, Ouzinkie, Larsen Bay, West Point, Port Williams, Port Wakefield, Karluk, Alitak, Old Harbor; and on the Aleutian Chain, Chignik, Perryville, Cold Bay, Sand Point and Akutan.

### SOVIET POLAR FLIGHT NOTED ON MEDAL



The Redlands (CA) Coin Club commemorates the arrival of 3 Russian fliers in a single engine plane on July 14, 1937. The flight lasted 2 1/2 days, and landed at San Jacinto, CA.

The single engine plane had intended to land at San Diego, but found it fogged in on their arrival. They flew north and landed in the first large field they saw - a cow pasture at the west edge of San Jacin-

to. The landing occurred shortly after sunrise and a newspaper delivery boy saw it and spread the news.

San Jacinto telephones were tied into the Redlands exchange and soon the residents of Redlands heard the news and began driving over the hill to see the large transpolar airplane. At least two Redlands Coin Club members recall going to see the plane.

Californians welcomed the fliers and honored them in parades. The fliers were feted at March Field and in Los Angeles and later were taken to Washington, D.C. where they were greeted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The fliers - M. Gromov, A. Yumashev and S. Danilin later became generals and are now deceased.

The plane -- ANT-25 was disassembled, crated and shipped by sea back to Russia. It was reassembled and put on display at a Moscow museum but was later destroyed in a fire. The San Jacinto museum displays a small model. It was 44 feet long, 18 feet high, and had a 112 foot wingspan. Travelling at 101 mile per hour, it consumed 2,475 gallons of fuel. The 62 hour, 17 minute flight covered 6,668 miles setting a distance record.

Two weeks earlier a similar plane landed at Vancouver, Washington. The San Jacinto flight received more attention because it set a new distance record. A third plane in the series, with five aboard, left Moscow two weeks later but was lost, apparently over the arctic. The Russians are said to have conducted a year long search for it and survivors, but apparently found nothing.

The medals were struck in 1 oz., .999 silver (200 minted), oxidized bronze (200 minted) and bright bronze (600 struck). Prices are \$21, \$3 and \$2 respectively. The set of three can be purchased for \$25. All prices are postpaid. Orders should be sent to Redlands Coin Club, P.O. Box 1510, Redlands, CA 92373.

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How is your Alaskan Elongated collection coming along? This is a great opportunity to start or add to your present collection at a substantial savings. This set will be a welcome addition to any collection.



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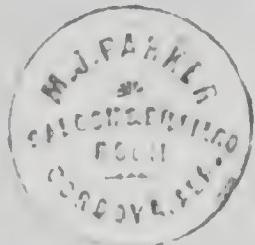


BEAR

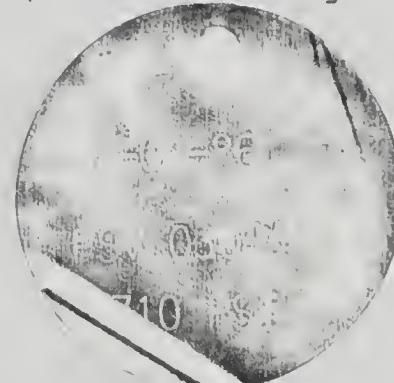


OWL

## FOR THE RECORD



CORDOVA, ALA.: M.J. Parker, Saloon & Billiard Room. Brass, 25mm. Extensive search of Alabama business directories failed to turn up anything. Can anyone pin it down for Alaska? (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



(PRUDHOE BAY): Standard Alaska, Equipment chit. Brass with Standard Alaska in black. 38mm. If numbers on reverse are 1/2 inch high, then it is a tool chit. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



RAMPART: J. Anicich, good for 1 drink or cigar. Listed, not illustrated. (submitted by Ralph Burry).



SEWARD: The Palace, 25 cents in trade. Alum., scalloped, 28mm. (submitted by Lew Benagberg).



SEWARD: Martha's Corner, wooden nickel, black ink. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



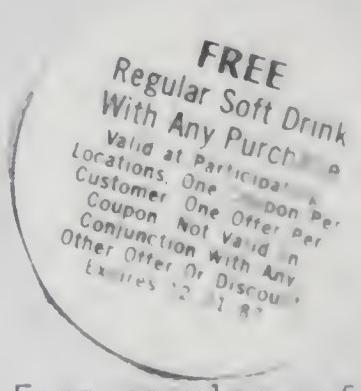
EAGLE MAVERICKS: Should have known the J & B Eagle Saloon would bring the Eagle mavericks out of the woodwork!



MAVERICK: Rainier-Grand Hotel, Wilson & White Co., 12 1/2 cents in trade. A John White is known in Cordova, as is the Rainier-Grand Hotel. Can anyone find Wilson and White involved with the Rainier-Grand? (submitted by Lew Egnew).



TRANS-ALASKAN PIPELINE: Off-metal strikes of the 1975M (#2) and 1975D (#5). Both now known in aluminum, and #2 in what is presumed to be zinc because this same firm minted a 3 piece set for the American Revolution Bi-centennial in silver, bronze and zinc.



ALASKA: Jack in the Box, Free regular soft drink with any purchase. Blue on white plastic, 38mm.

## ALASKA BOOSTERS

Most collectors of Alaskan tokens and medals are familiar with the Alaska Booster dollars issued in 1962. We used to have them by the roll, but don't believe that we have one in the store at present.

What most people do not know is that there were more designs prepared, but not used. Global Exchange Limited has resurrected these designs and is offering them in the form of a limited edition. There are now 10 different designs, all featured on this page. The silver medals will carry a "Good for \$20" inscription similar to the \$1 trade dollar, while the bronze set will carry the denomination of \$5. Since these medals are of the same design as the original Alaska Booster dollars, the expiry date is 1962!

Those wishing to order may do so by using the order blank that accompanies Global Exchange, Ltd.'s ad. I am sure that if you do not want to cut up your issue of ATC&PN, that they will accept orders not on these forms.



## RARE HUDSON'S BAY CO. TOKENS



The above tokens were featured in Gary Pipher's October 26th mail bid. Larry Gingras listed them as from Ungava Bay, with known denominations of 1, 5, 10, and 20 Made Beavers, but only the 1 and the 10 MB tokens were known to have survived. This token is now illustrated for our readers.

## TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE - OFF METAL STRIKES



One set of the three off-metal strikes as listed in For the Record is available for purchase. The first check in the amount of \$50 will get them. Other orders will be returned. Send to NSA, P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, AK 99707.



NSA Inc. • P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 • Subscription \$8.00/year  
VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 10.

DECEMBER, 1986.

### THE YUKON TELEPHONE SYNDICATE OF DAWSON AND ITS TOKEN

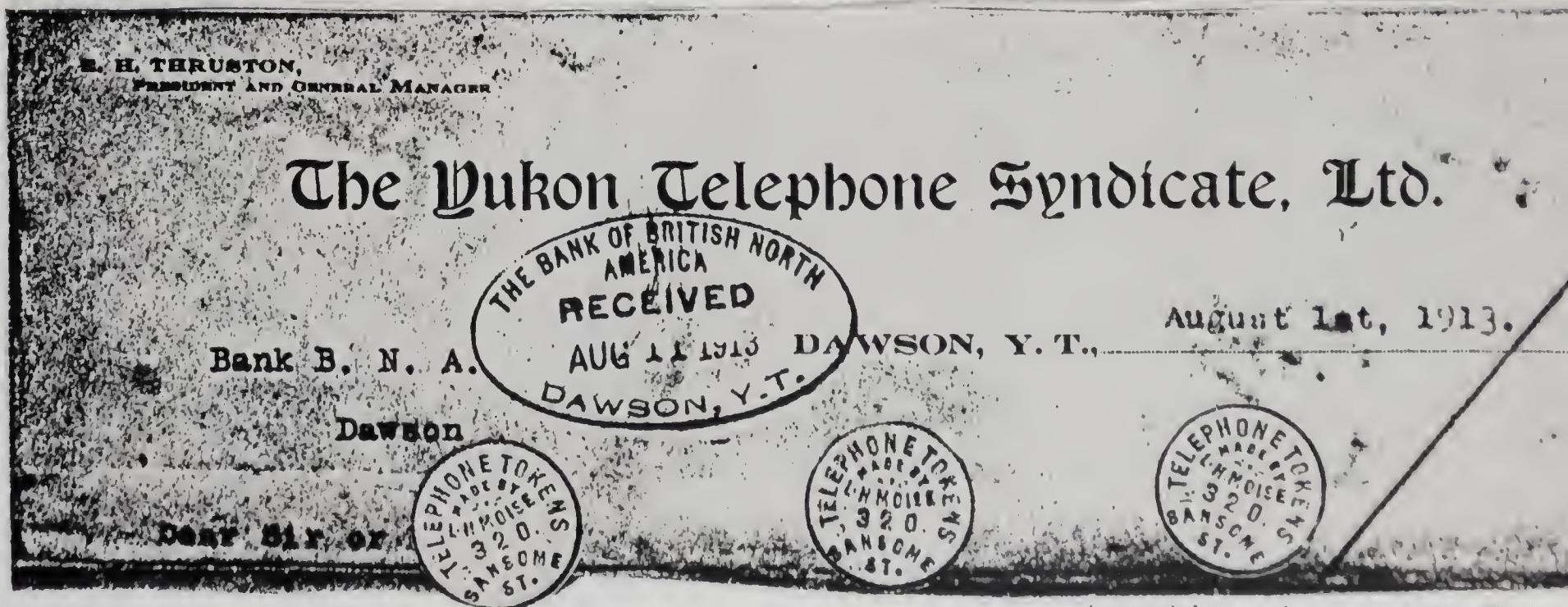
Ralph R. Burry, F.C.N.R.S.

Soon after the Klondike gold rush of 1898, the city of Dawson, Y.T. was well established and a need for utilities was one of the first items of priority next to food, liquor and hurdy gurdy enjoyment. The population of Dawson soon became over twenty thousand.

About the early part of 1899 the Dawson Electric Light and Power Company was founded by a group of business men headed by a Mr. Donald Olson who became the president and general manager. This was the first electric power in the Yukon, the nearest being in Alaska.

In about six or seven months, with the electricity coming to the Yukon, the need for some sort of telephone system was apparent. The mining and businessmen did all their ordering and buying by letter, which took too long. There was a sort of telegraph system in operation, but this like the letter was too long in serving their needs. Around 1900 the Yukon Telephone Syndicate, Ltd. was formed and headed by a Mr. R. H. Thruston who became president and general manager. The head office for the company was Dawson, Y.T.

There was no Canadian company available to supply the telephone equipment so they ordered all their equipment from the United States, most coming from San Francisco. When the phones came to Canada the coin slot was made for the large American five cents coin ("nickel"), and the small, silver five cents coin of Canada would not work. The need for a token or slug was necessary. The Yukon Telephone Syndicate, Ltd. ordered a stock token from L. H. Moise Company of San Francisco, a manufacturer of tokens and other numismatic items such as medals, merchant's checks, etc. Moise made these stock tokens to keep new telephone companies going until personal tokens were ordered. It is



(continued on page 50)

## EDITORIAL

This month's issue is a bit late. Not quite a situation beyond our control, but close. Just didn't make the time to get it done.

I don't know if this issue will be printed up to the quality that we have achieved recently. Our printer is on the blink. We can get dot matrix out of it (sometimes) and most of the time can't get "near letter quality" (what we have been using). If we cannot get NLQ out of our printer, will try to use a friend's. That will delay the mailing of this issue for an extra day or two. Enough of the bad news.

We can thank Ralph Burry for a neat article on a telephone token used in Dawson. While it is a stock token, it still has a place in a listing of Yukon tokens. Now, can anyone tell us what kind of "slugs" were used in the water dispensers that were mentioned in ATC&PN, Feb. 1983 (page 8).

The index for 1986 ATC&PN should be included with this mailing. If it is not, it will be sent with the January, 1987 issue.

Which brings us to SUBSCRIPTIONS. If your mailing label has a 12/86 on the same line as your name, your subscription expires with this issue. Please use the order blank attached to the last page.

Finally, page 53 is an information sheet for a new newsletter that we are planning - Alaskan Znachki Bulletin. What? Don't know what a Znachki is? Well, see page 53. We will start it off small, and see what develops.

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ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST is a publication of Numismatic Services of Alaska, Inc. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reproduced without their permission.

Editor- Dick Hanscom

Canadian Correspondent- Jerry Remick

Subscription Rates:

U.S. & Canada	\$8 per year
Elsewhere	\$16 per year

## PIONEER BREWING CO.

Remember the Midnight Sun Beer labels we offered for sale some time ago. We have finally found a date for the start up of the Pioneer Brewing Co. From the Fairbanks Daily News Miner, Sept. 23, 1936:

The Pioneer Brewery began dispensing its new beer today through different local retail agencies. The brewery will be open to inspection at a public reception Sunday afternoon with brewmaster Joe Hertel and other company heads on hand to greet all visitors.

We still have the Midnight Sun Beer labels available for \$20.

- - - - -  
BRITISH YUKON NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

### BRITISH YUKON NAVIGATION CO., Ltd.

1925

No. 268

PASS Mrs. J. H. R. Parsons

ACCOUNT Wife P.T.M., Southern Pacific Co

BETWEEN All Ports

UNTIL CLOSE OF NAVIGATION 1925

UNLESS OTHERWISE ORDERED AND  
SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS ON BACK

VALID WHEN COUNTERSIGNED BY  
J. G. BLANCHARD, C. J. ROGERS,  
W. C. BLANCHARD, L. ZWERGEL OR  
COUNTERSIGNED

J. Blanchard

F. C. Elliott  
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#### CONDITIONS.

This pass is not transferable, must be signed in ink by the holder thereof, and the person accepting and using it thereby assumes all risk of accident and damage to person and baggage.

I hereby represent and declare that I am not prohibited, for any reason or by any law, from accepting or using this pass, and that I will not use the same when or where such use would be a violation of law.

Good for Transportation Only

Above is a pass for the year of 1925, valid on any B.Y.N. riverboat. Light blue card, black printing, with date and serial number overprinted in red, 101 by 64 mm.

## YUKON TELEPHONE TOKEN, cont.

presumed that the Yukon Telephone Syndicate did not order any personal tokens, as none has ever been found.

An old pioneer of Dawson who used to demolish old buildings in the area found three old phones of the Yukon Telephone Syndicate and found a number of these telephone tokens in the money box at the bottom of these phones. We now assume these tokens were the ones used by the telephone company many years ago. The tokens are made of brass, are uniface, and measure 21mm in diameter. Pictured at the bottom of the front page of this issue is a letterhead from this long ago telephone company with three of these tokens. We must list this token among others of the era, even though it does not say Dawson, Y.T. or Yukon Telephone Syndicate, Ltd., as it was used during the heyday of tokens in the Yukon Territory.

## ALASKA PURCHASE CENTENNIAL



(Reprinted courtesy of The Numismatist, official publication of the American Numismatic Association, 818 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903).

This medal was struck to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the purchase of Alaska from Russia. This 40mm piece (about 1-9/16") was struck in three metals with a maximum authorization of 100,000 pieces. Ten Thousand were in silver, the first 2500 of which were serially numbered and the balance ordered were struck in bronze. Platinum pieces were available in cased numbered sets matched with the silver and bronze and were sold on a reservation-only basis at \$500 each and only within the state of Alaska.

The obverse depicts a prospector with pack, pick and shovel on his back and rifle in

hand as he strides meaningfully forward. The border reads, 1867 NORTH TO THE FUTURE 1967, on the top and ALASKA PURCHASE CENTENNIAL, on the bottom. The "P" mint-mark appears in front of the prospector's left foot.

The reverse has a circle about a fourth of an inch in from the edge, around it reads, ALASKA PURCHASE CENTENNIAL 1867-1967. Running through the circle is a symbolic totem pole depicting at the bottom a Russian church surmounted by an American eagle, then a rancher and a locomotive topped by a star with 49 in the center for the 49th state. There is a backdrop of mountains and to the right of the totem pole is a flag showing the big dipper and the North star.

July, 1968

(Ed. note: The medals are 34mm, not 40mm as stated in the above article, and the rancher on the totem pole is a gold panner).

## SEGREGATION IN WHITEHORSE, Y.T.

# Pueblo Lunch

Whitehorse, Y. T.

Meals at all hours—50 cents to \$1

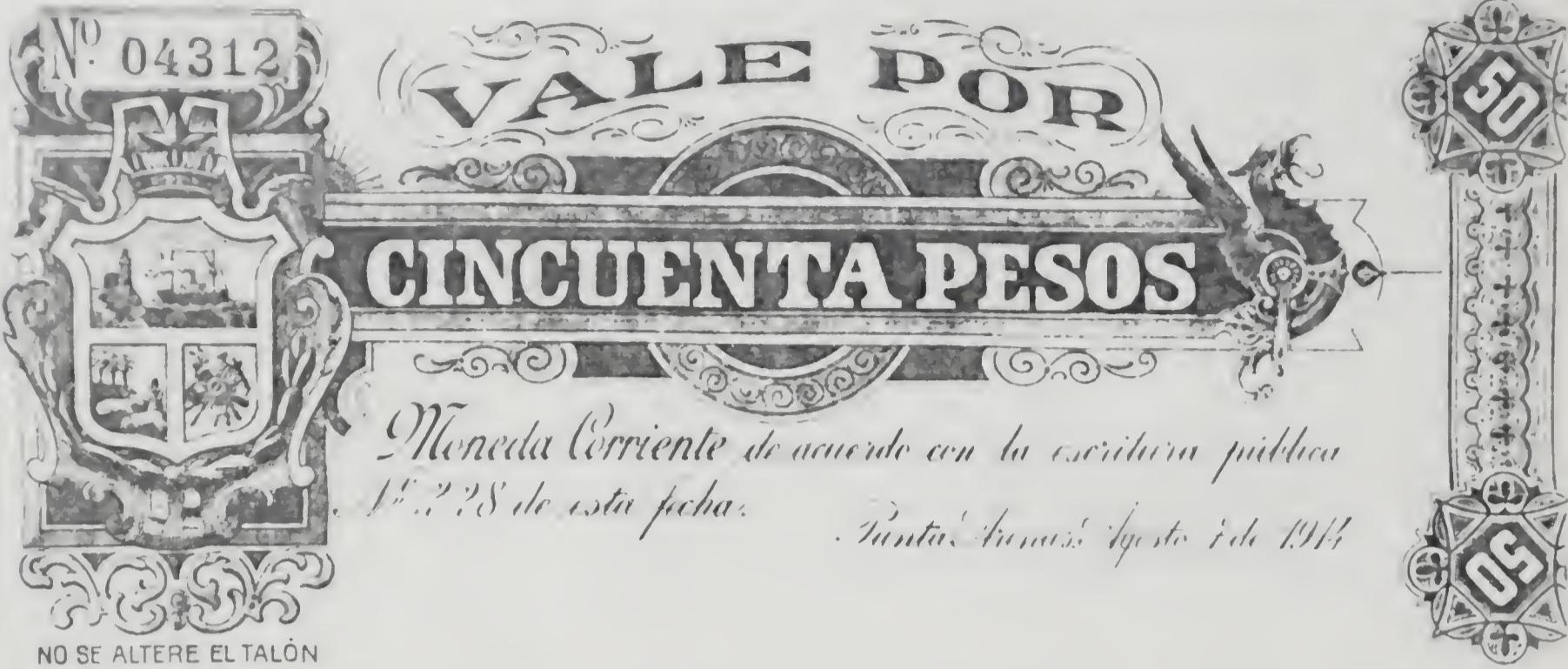
Strictly Home Cooking

Strong drink included

Comfortable rooms—\$1.50 to \$2

Above is an interesting item from Whitehorse, Y.T. It seems that the Pueblo Lunch was a "whites only establishment". They served meals at all hours for 50 cents to \$1, strictly home cooking. And they had comfortable rooms for only \$1.50 to \$2.

But, they wanted to serve only white folk. One tends to idealize the north, thinking that this kind of thing didn't happen here. Actually seeing it brings the point home real quick. Can anyone establish a date range for the Pueblo Lunch? (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



*Este Vale lo Garantizan:*

Braun & Blanchard

Sociedad Anónima Ganadería y Comercial "Menéndez - Bohety"  
Stubenrauch y Cia.

Sociedad Anónima Importadora y Exportadora de la Patagonia

Sociedad Anónima Ganadera y Comercial "José Antes"

Sara Braun en Valenzuela --- Héctor Gill --- Sra. Max Gill  
Sociedad Ganadera Gente Grande

As many of you know, one of the areas we cover from time to time is Punta Arenas and Tierra del Fuego. Punta Arenas is the most southerly city on the continent of South America, and Tierra del Fuego is the Island across the Straits of Magellan from Punta Arenas.

The note illustrated above is from Punta Arenas, and appears to be a type of local necessity currency.

The front of the note is brown, and features what we assume to be the coat of arms of Punta Arenas. The note was issued

on August 7, 1914, in accordance with public law No. 228. The note was printed by LITO. DE EL MAGALLANES in Punta Arenas. The back of the note is orange, and lists those firms and individuals that guarantee the note. The note bears the watermark "Banco de Punta Arenas". The note is unissued.

This note has appeared in three auctions in the last couple of months. It was previously unlisted. This leads one to think that it might be a hoard item. The three notes seen offered carried 04310, 04312, and 04361 for serial numbers.

## GUDBRAND J. LOMEN

Theodore Roosevelt believes in the Biblical injunction to man: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." He admires genius, capacity to work, ability to do, independence of character, courage, frankness and honesty: and if recent newspaper and magazine article be true, this category is not complete without adding, large families. This foreword has been suggested by the fact that the last census of Nome shows that G. J. Lomen has the largest family in this community, five sons and one daughter, and he is prouder of his family than of any success or achievement of his life.

Mr. Lomen was born of Norwegian parents on a farm near Decorah, Iowa, January 28, 1854. He attended the common schools of the state, Luther College, and in 1875 was graduated by the State University of Iowa with the degree of LL. B. Two years later he was elected to the office of Clerk of the District Court of Houston County, Minn., and held this office for eight years. Removing to St. Paul, he established an office and began the practice of law. In 1889 he was the Republican candidate for Municipal Judge of St. Paul, but was defeated with the rest of his ticket. He represented the first ward in the House of Representatives during the session of 1891, and took an active part in Minnesota politics, serving on county and congressional committees.

He came to Nome with the rush of 1900, and was engaged in the practice of his profession until Sept. 1, 1903, when he accepted the office of deputy clerk of the U.S. District Court, at Nome. While practicing law in Nome Mr. Lomen acquired a number of valuable mining interests. He has been an attorney in a number of important cases before the District Court in Nome, notably as the representative of the plaintiffs in the celebrated No. 14 Ophir suit in 1901. Among other important cases with which he has been connected, are the suits over No. 3 bench claim, Daniels Creek, the Sequoia claim on Ophir Creek, and the suit against



the Wild Goose Mining Company, involving the question of water rights on Ophir Creek. The importance of the last case mentioned was emphasized by the fact that it was the first one of the kind to determine the question of water rights to come before the court. During his practice before the courts in Minnesota he was attorney for a client who received the largest alimony, \$45,000 ever awarded in any court of the state.

(Ed. note: The preceding is from the Souvenir Edition of Nome and Seward Peninsula, History, Description, Biographies and Stories by E. S. Harrison.)

While we are looking at the Lomen family, now is a good time to present an excerpt from "Fifty Years in Alaska" by Carl J. Lomen. The late Dave Fronius brought this to our attention several years ago.

"Our cigar counter was near the front of the store. As was the custom in Nome, many patrons "shook dice" in making their purchases. We used what were termed "bingles" round aluminum disks the size of a quarter stamped with our name and "Good for 12 1/2 cents in trade." Change was made with bingles and many "shook dice" and, successful, took bingles to be used for future purchases. One day a customer came in and said to Alfred: "Say, Al, what about one shake of the dice for the bingles I have - double or nothing?" "All right" answered Alfred, without asking any questions. They each threw the dice and Alfred won. With that the customer commenced emptying his pockets until the top of the counter was covered with bingles, several hundred dollars worth. It seems the customer had been collecting bingles for a year or more, and considered it a good joke to spring a surprise on Alfred, though not so great as it would have been had the customer been successful. We wondered what had happened to our stock of "bingles.""

The above is very interesting, as the only denomination of bingle known from Lomen Bros. is a 25 cent token, B-28a

# ALASKAN ZNACHKI BULLETIN

Volume 0, number 0.

N.S.A., Inc., P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, AK 99707

## WHAT ARE ZNACHKI?

Znachki are pins. Znachok is singular, while znachki is plural. Znachki are very popular in the Soviet Union, where they are probably one of the few things the common man can afford to collect.

## WHY ALASKAN ZNACHKI BULLETIN?

Well, it sounds better than Alaskan Znachki Znews or Alaskan Pin News. And you must admit, it got your attention. Since Alaska was purchased from Russia, then this is not entirely out of line.

## WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF A.Z.B.?

Our first objective is to inform. We will carry information on new issues and new discoveries. Input will be sought from the organizations issuing the pins and buttons, and from collectors. For information used in the Bulletin, credit will be given in the form of subscription extensions.

Our second objective will be to promote. This will be done by publicizing new issues. We will also be accepting advertising in the form of classified, sales lists, auctions, and informational. If you wish to advertise, please write for our rates.

Our third objective is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas. This is really where the subscriber comes in. To make this publication work, it will have to have a high degree of reader participation.

## FREQUENCY, LENGTH

The frequency will be determined on the amount of information that we have available to us. We should be able to easily put out 4 issues per year, with at least 3 pages per issue. If there is enough information to warrant it, then the frequency will increase.

## SUBSCRIPTION FEES

For Volume I, number 1, there will be no charge. If you like the first issue, then you will be able to subscribe to the next 3 issues for \$3.

To receive the first issue, please send your name and address to the address above. Do not send any money at this time. Volume I, number 1 will be mailed in January, 1987 with subscription order blank.

## WHO IS N.S.A., INC.?

NSA is primarily the Coin Shop in Fairbanks. We have also published Alaska Token Collector and Polar Numismatics for about 8 years. ATC&PN average more than 50 pages per year in 10 issues. The editor of ATC&PN is Dick Hanscom, and he will also be editor of AZB.

## WHAT WILL BE IN THE FIRST ISSUE?

There will be some information on new Yukon Quest pin, and a pin for a new organization in Fairbanks. If there is any information on the Fur Rendez pins, then this will also be included.

For a later issue there will be a short article on pins from the A-60th celebration in Fairbanks.

But, we cannot emphasize enough that this publication will sink or swim on the contributions of our readers. If you have information you want to share, please send it along to us.

## WHAT A.Z.B. IS NOT

A.Z.B. is not a club. It is an informational newsletter, published for profit (we hope) by N.S.A., Inc.

-----  
That should outline our purposes. Your suggestions and comments are welcome.

-Dick Hanscom

## FOR THE RECORD



(FAIRBANKS): Food Factory, Bentley Mall, Good for one Schooner (pitcher of beer). Gold on black plastic, 41mm. (submitted by Wil Courtney).



FAIRBANKS: Greyhound Lounge/Silver Spur Nite Club. One ounce silver medal.



TULSEQUAH, B.C.: Polaris Taku Mining Co., Ltd. Set of three chits, blue printing on; 5c (blue), 10c (red) and 25c (peach). Serial number and denomination overprinted in red. Tulsequah is just across the B.C./AK border, on the Taku River, near Juneau. We were promised an article on these a few years ago. We were told that these saw some use in Juneau, probably being accepted by some of the businesses as Juneau was the closest town of any size.



H.B. CO.: Set of 3, all brass; 5, 10 and 35. The "5" has makers name Wright & Son. This was used on token made in 1899 or earlier. Sizes are 20mm, 22mm and 27mm, respectively. (submitted by Lew Egnew).



ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS: Captan Scott, 1868-1909. Part of a British History series. Similar to a Franklin Mint product. Sterling silver, 45mm.

### THE EAGLE SALOON MAVERICK

The Eagle Saloon Maverick with the 6 1/4 cent reverse, featured in For the Record, in the Oct./Nov. issue of ATC&PN is a Jos. Meyer Co. product, from Seattle. This is considered a Seattle token down here - but as you know Jos. Meyer Co. made many Alaska token dies too - so the possibility is there??

-Lew Egnew

### KLONDYKE CHOP HOUSE



Here is an interesting maverick from George Hosek.

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# ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR



## POLAR NUMISMATIST

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